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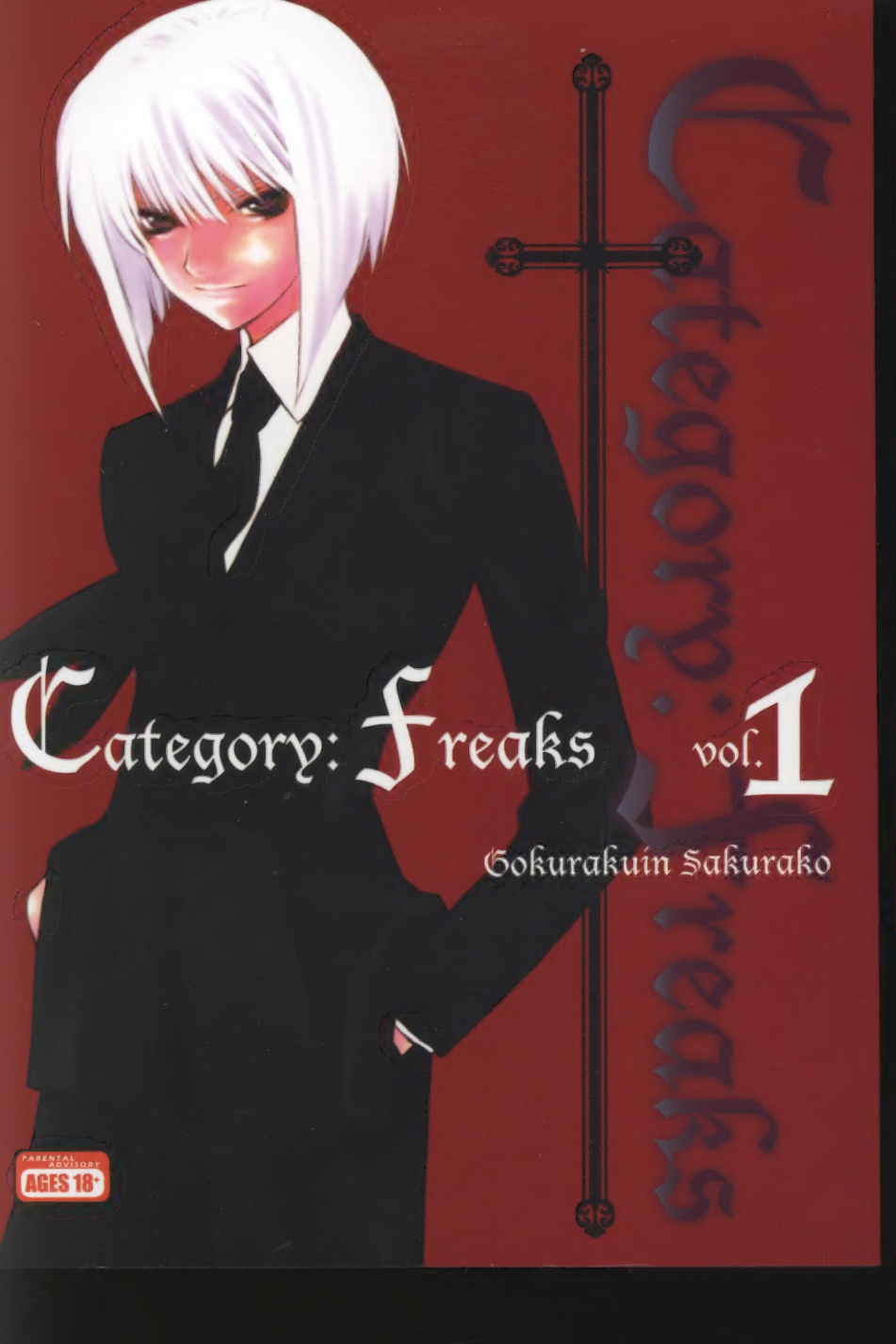
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AGES 18+

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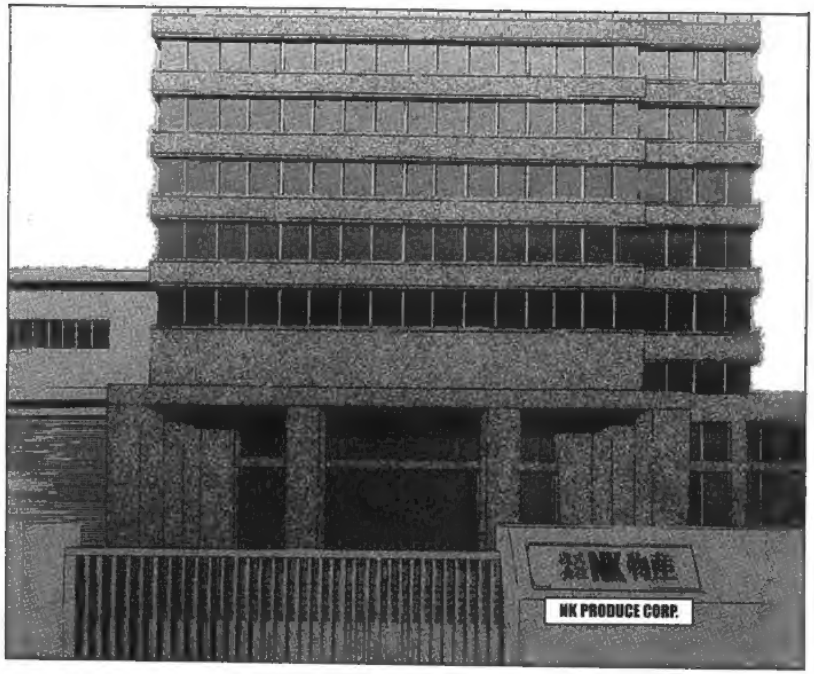

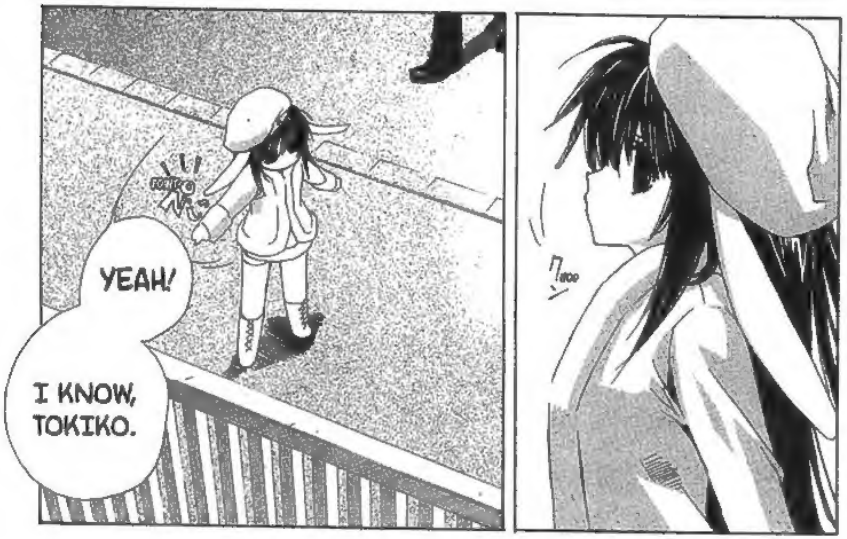

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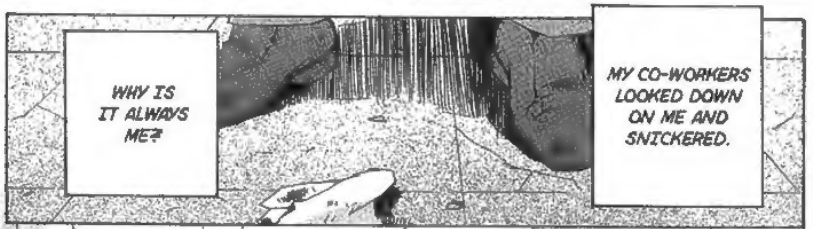
137

act.1

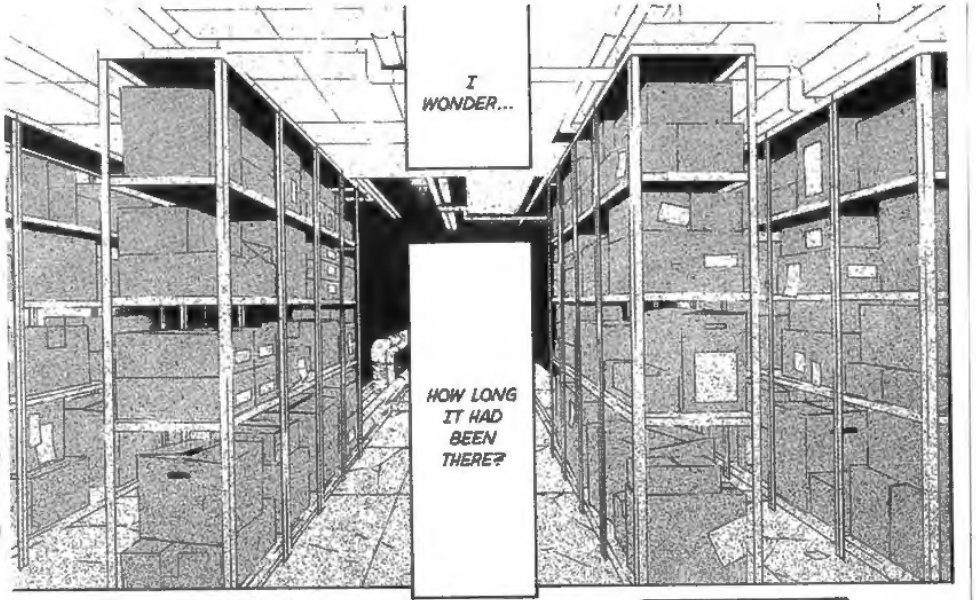
I SMELL A FREAK.
THERE'S DEFINITELY...
ONE HERE.

DON'T YOU?

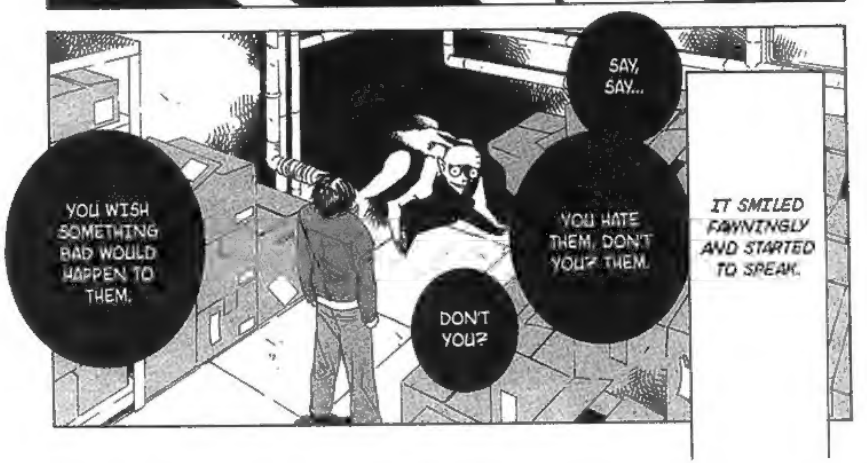
I'D BEEN PUSHED INTO THIS PLACE, NEVER GIVEN ANY PROPER WORK.
ANY HOPE I HAD FOR PROMOTION HAD BEEN CUT OFF.

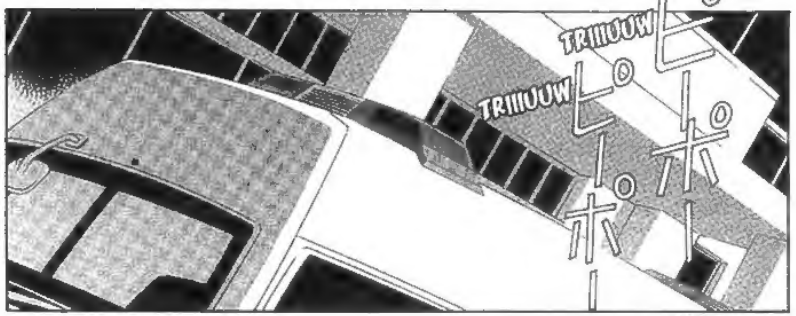

WHY IS IT ALWAYS ME?
MY CO-WORKERS LOOKED DOWN ON ME AND SNICKERED.

THIS ISN'T FAIR.
YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT.


I WONDER...
HOW LONG IT HAD BEEN THERE?

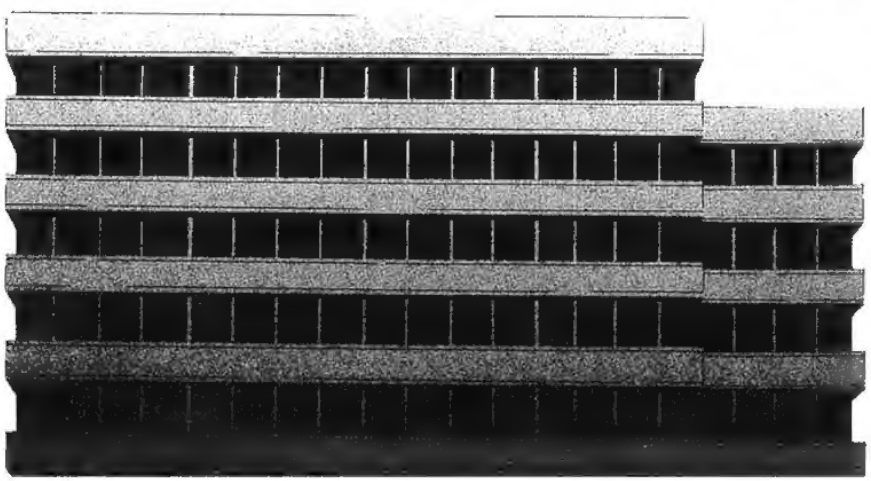
I FOUND IT COMICAL RATHER THAN FEARSOME, WITH ITS BULGING, ORB-LIKE EYES.
CREEPING AROUND, MELTING INTO THE SHADOWS IN THE DIM ROOM.

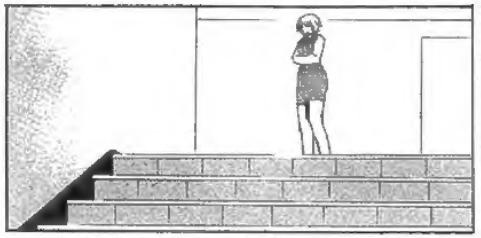

SAY, SAY...
YOU WISH SOMETHING BAD WOULD HAPPEN TO THEM.
YOU HATE THEM, DON'T YOU? THEM.
DON'T YOU?
IT SMILED FAWNINGLY AND STARTED TO SPEAK.


TRIIIUUW
TRIIIUUW

HOW MANY DOES THIS MAKE?
NOT ANOTHER ONE...
SOMEONE FELL DOWN THE STAIRS.
WHAT IS IT? WHAT'S GOING ON?

IT REALLY MAKES ME WONDER IF THIS COMPANY'S CURSED...





SORRY! I FORGOT MY WALLET.
WAIT FOR ME. I'LL GO GET IT.
YOU'RE SUCH A SPAZ.

AAAAAAH-HHHHHH!

THANKS FOR WAITING...
...?

IT WAS ABOUT A MONTH AGO THAT THE STRANGE INCIDENTS BEGAN TO OCCUR AT THIS COMPANY.
株式会社NK物産
NK PRODUCE CORP.
AT FIRST, PEOPLE JUST TRIPPED AND FELL IN PLACES WHERE NOTHING WAS THERE TO TRIP ON.
BUT THE INCIDENTS BECAME MORE AND MORE FREQUENT.
THEN PEOPLE WERE GRABBED BY THEIR ARMS AND LEGS AND SHOVED AROUND WHEN THERE WAS NO ONE AROUND.
THE ACCIDENTS ESCALATED WITH EACH COMING DAY.
AND NOW, A FEMALE EMPLOYEE HAS BEEN SERIOUSLY INJURED.

AND THOSE ARE THE DETAILS OF THE SERIES OF ACCI-DENTS.
DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, ASAGI?
HUH?
THEY'RE "INCIDENTS," AMANO.
HEY!
YOU THERE!
SOMEONE BEARING ILL WILL DID HARM TO PEOPLE WITH OBVIOUS MALICE.
HUMANS WOULD CALL THAT A CRIME, WOULD THEY NOT?

I TOLD YOU, WE'RE
BUSINESS? THEY LET KIDS LIKE YOU WORK?
HERE'S OUR BUSINESS CARD. THE NAME IS HIS, THE ONE "WITH THE BOBBED HAIR".
TO PUT IT SIMPLY, WE'RE MONSTER EXTERMINATORS.
"INVESTIGATORS OF PARANORMAL PHENOMENA"?
I'M NANAMI, THE CHIEF MANAGER.
I'M HERE ON COMMISSION BY YOUR TOP EXECUTIVE.

PUT OUT YOUR CIGARETTE!
YOU'RE STILL IN MIDDLE SCHOOL, AREN'T YOU!?
NO, YOU SEE, WE'RE...
YOU THERE, WITH THE BOBBED HAIR!
WHAT ARE YOU KIDS DOING HERE, LETTING YOURSELVES INSIDE THE BUILDING?
THERE IS NO UNAUTHORIZED ENTRY ALLOWED HERE.
HEH!
HE'S ACTUALLY A LOT OLDER THAN HE LOOKS...
AND IN TRUTH WE'RE HERE ON BUSINESS.
PLUS, HIS EMOTIONAL REACTIONS AREN'T QUITE NORMAL. SO DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
EXCUSE ME...
WHA... WHAT'S SO FUNNY?
HEEEHEHEHE
SHORTO
HEEEHEHEHE

I APOLOGIZE...
AND WHICH PERSON WOULD BE TANABE THE GENERAL MANAGER?
I WAS TOLD FROM MY SUPERIORS TO SHOW YOU AROUND.
I AM TANABE.
BUT I NEVER IMAGINED YOU WOULD BE SO YOUNG...
I HAD HEARD SOMEONE LIKE YOU WOULD BE COMING.
WELL, WHEN YOU GET TO BE MY AGE, IT'S NOT LIKE YOU DO ALL THAT MUCH...
NO, THIS COUNTS AS MY WORK, TOO.
THANK YOU. THOUGH YOU MUST BE VERY BUSY WITH WORK.

I'M SO SORRY! HE'S...
A-
ASAGI!!
I SEE. SO, YOU'VE BEEN "PUT OUT TO PASTURE," THEN?
HAHAHA, IT'S ALRIGHT.
I'M STILL MUCH BETTER OFF THAN SOME.
AND EVEN OUR COMPANY IS SUFFERING FROM THE RECESSION.
I'M CLOSE TO RETIREMENT...
...
"STILL"... HUH...?

SHALL WE GET TO THE MATTER OF THE COMMISSION, AMANO?
ABOUT WHEN DID THE INCIDENTS BEGIN?
UH? WELL...
A MONTH AGO... I GUESS IT WOULD'VE BEEN APRIL.
OH!
ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGES IN THE COMPANY?
UM, MR. TANABE?
AROUND THAT TIME, THERE WERE SOME...
YES?
18
AH, UM, THAT'S RIGHT.
IN APRIL.
WHAT ABOUT IT?
YOU JUST SAID THAT YOUR COMPANY IS SUFFERING FROM THE RECESSION, RIGHT?
SOMEONE COULD BE HARBORING A GRUDGE AFTER BEING LAID OFF?
DO YOU THINK IT'S POSSIBLE THAT...
キャ
EEEEEEH!
I KNEW IT!
IT MUST BE HIS CURSE!
WE CAN'T GO DOWN INTO THE BASEMENT STORAGE ROOM ANYMORE.
19

ASAGI.
YOU GIRLS,
STOP TALKING NONSENSE.
EVERYONE'S BEEN TALKING ABOUT IT, WONDERING IF IT COULD BE HIM.
YOU SEE,
BUT!
I'LL LEAVE THE BORING NEGOTIATIONS TO YOU.
I'M GONNA FOLLOW HIS SCENT.

SLAM
HEY! A--!
ASAGI!!
UM...
WHOSE SCENT DID HE SAY HE WAS GOING TO FOLLOW?
I-I'M SORRY! HE ALWAYS DOES WHAT HE WANTS...
THE CRIMINAL?
SO...
WHAT'S IN THE BASEMENT STORAGE ROOM?
IS WHAT HE MEANT.
UHH...
THE "CRIMINAL" DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THESE "INCIDENTS"...

WELL, I CAN'T SAY FOR SURE.
I'LL LEAVE THE HUMANS' BUSINESS TO THE HUMANS.
IT'S LIKE A BARBAROI.*
IT SEEMS LIKE THEY MIGHT HAVE THE RIGHT KIND OF SOIL HERE.
THOSE WOMEN MAY HAVE BEEN THE ONES WHO BORE AND RAISED HIM.

*GREEK TERM FOR A NON-GREEK SPEAKER. A "BABBLER"

WE HAVE OUR OWN WORK TO DO.
OWUU...
WH-
WHAT'S WRONG?
HEY!
I'VE/I'VE COMING.
THEY'RE GETTING CLOSER.
OUU...
OWUUU...

STRONGER.
I MUST BECOME STRONGER ...
HEY, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
WHYYY? RIGHT WHEN I'M MAKING PROGRESS...
WHY MUST THEY COME?
MOVE!
TURN
STRONGER!!

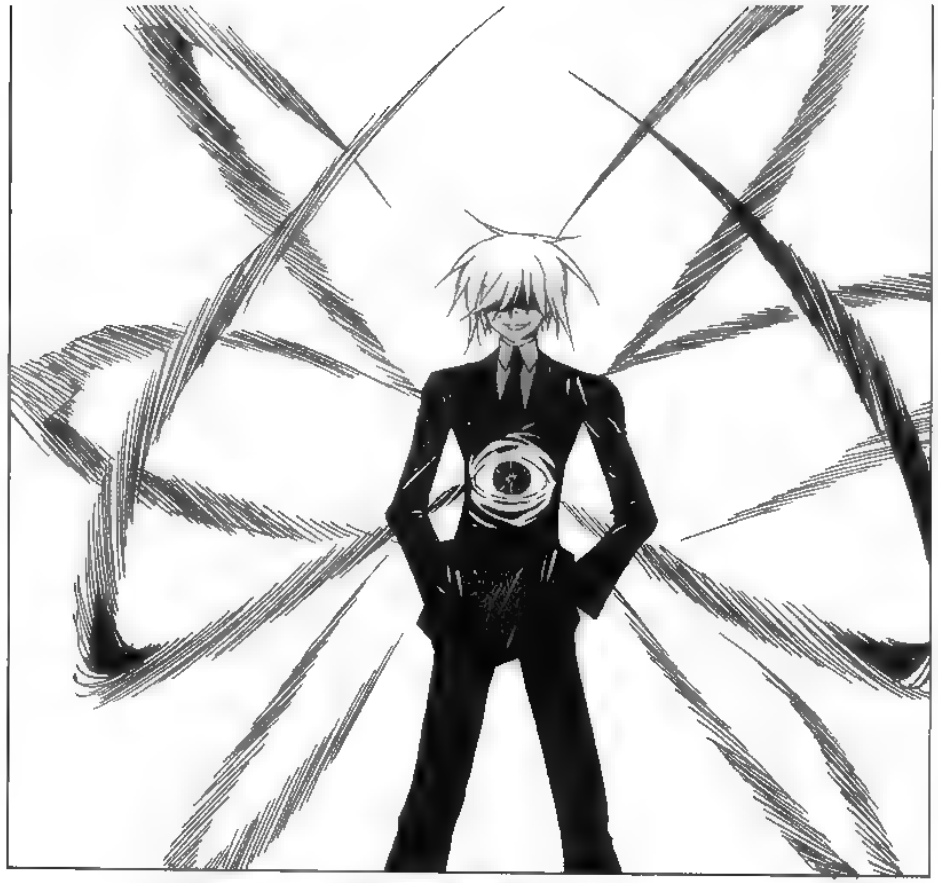
GAWWW!
LEAP
THUD
HE'S LOST CONTROL.
IT'S BECOME A BIT MORE COMPLICATED NOW THAT HE'S BEEN POSSESSED BY A FREAK.
YOU'RE AWAKE NOW HUH, IZUMI?

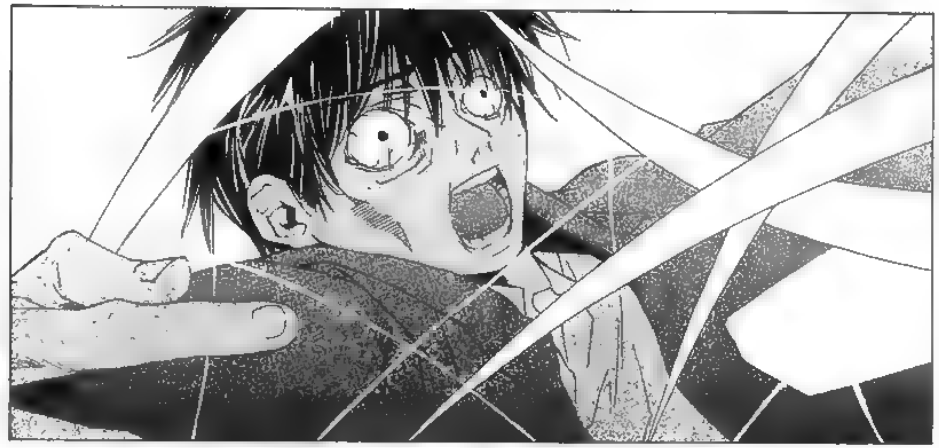
FOUND YOU.♥

JEEZ...
ALWAYS WITH THE KINDNESS OF A SLAVE DRIVER.
AND DON'T HURT THE HUMAN.
STOP COMPLAINING AND JUST GET OUT HERE.

THANK YOU.
IT'LL ALL BE OVER NOW.

SAP
GRAB





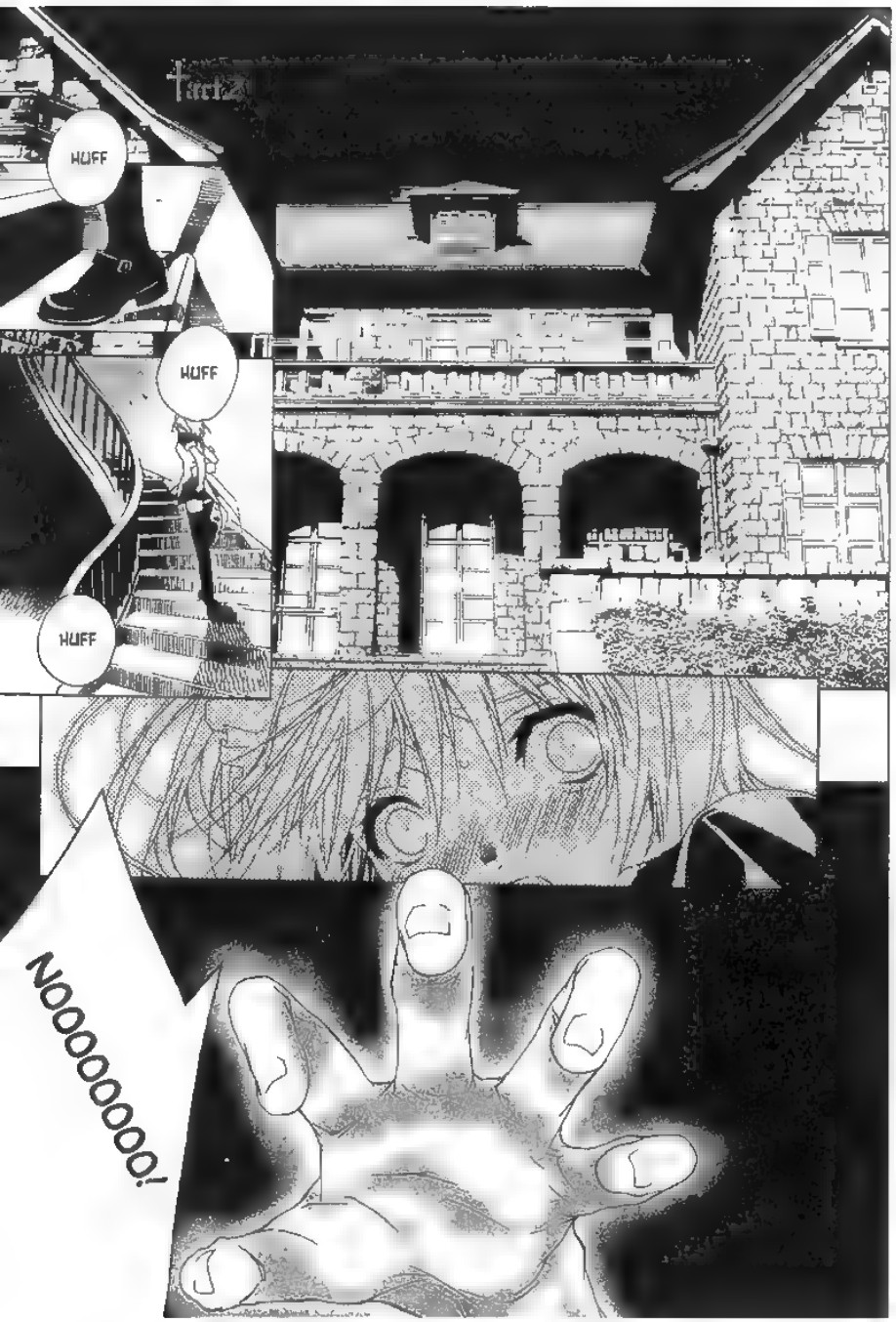
WHAT DO YOU MEAN!?
COME HERE, TOKIKO.
YOU...
WE'RE "STANDS".
A FREAK'S NATURAL ENEMY.

WH-
NO-!
AAGHH!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN!?
HERE'S WHAT YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR, TOKIKO.
EAT UP, AND DON'T LEAVE ANYTHING BEHIND.
ASAGI?
ARE YOU FINISHED?
KNOCK KNOCK
JUMP
YEAH.

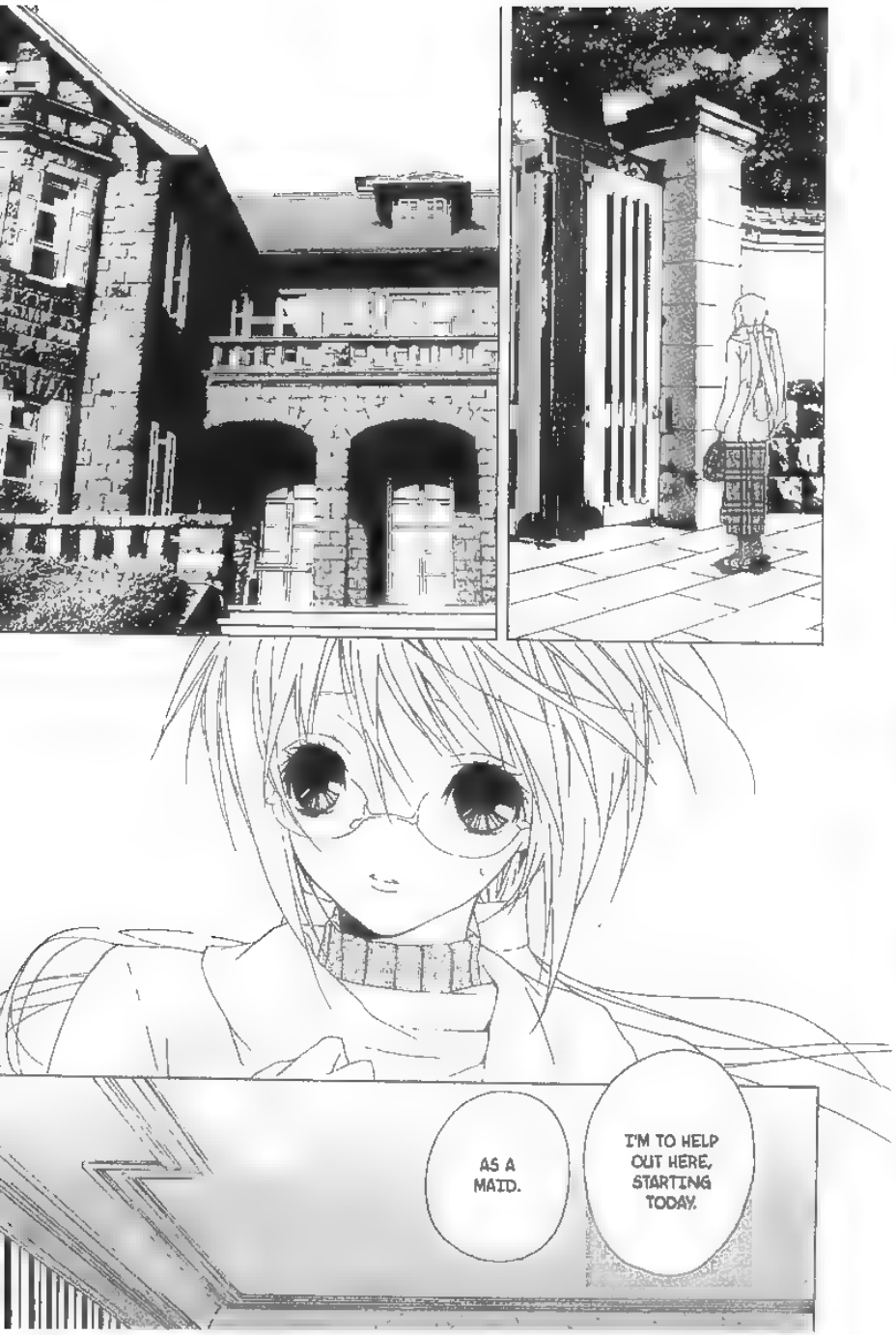
HUMANS ARE THE ONLY ONES WHO CAN CALL THEM INTO EXISTENCE.
THAT WAS SOMETHING YOU WANTED.
WHAT HAVE I...
WHAT HAVE I DONE?

AND AS LONG AS YOU'RE HERE, YOU'LL KEEP RELIVING IT.
YOU'VE BEEN LIVING A NIGHTMARE.

WHAT TO DO NEXT IS UP TO YOU.
I... DON'T WANT...
MR. KYONO ...
!
TO COME BACK HERE... ANYMORE.
YOU'RE STILL YOUNG.
YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE TO STAY HERE AND ROT.


HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
NOOOOOOO!

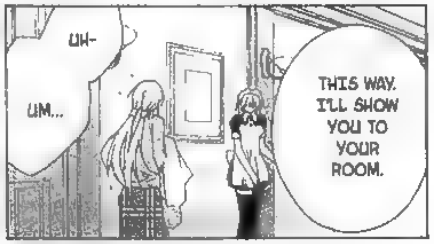
MAN, THE ADULT WORLD IS A SCARY PLACE.
A FREAK WOULD HAVE SHOWN UP THERE SOONER OR LATER
THAT STORAGE ROOM USED TO BE THE DEPARTMENT ROOM FOR DEMOTED EMPLOYEES.
YOU MEAN THE HUMAN WORLD, RIGHT?
ACK! WHAT?
YEAH, IT IS SCARY INDEED.
LET'S GET AWAY FROM HIM, TOKIKO. YOU'LL CATCH HUMANITY!
THAT'S DISCRIMINATION!


I'M TO HELP OUT HERE, STARTING TODAY.
AS A MAID.

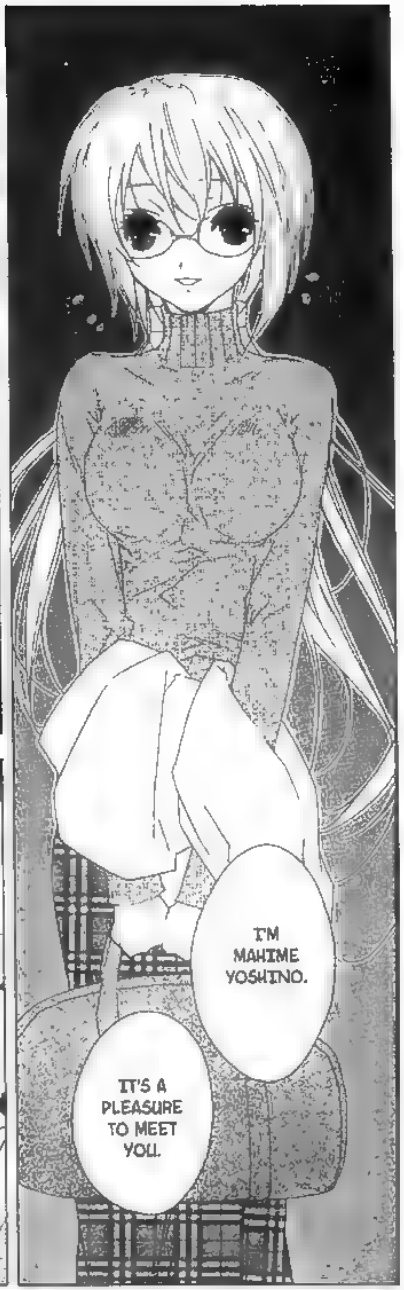
act.2

YOU MAY START TODAY.
THE MASTER SEEMS TO HAVE TAKEN A LIKING TO YOU.

HE'S A WONDERFUL PERSON.
YOU'LL FIND OUT SOON ENOUGH.

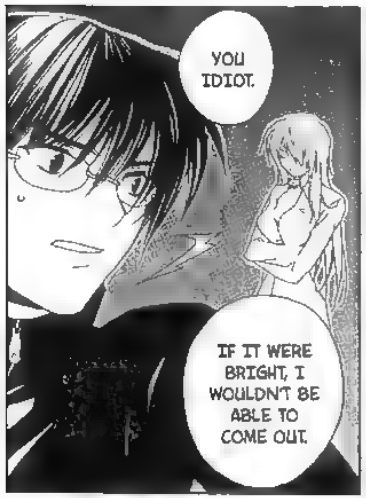

UH-
UM...
THIS WAY. I'LL SHOW YOU TO YOUR ROOM.

WHAT IS THE MASTER LIKE?

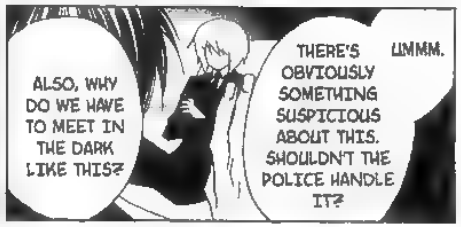

I'M MAHIME YOSHINO.
IT'S A PLEASURE TO MEET YOU.

...
..

IT'S A CERTAIN WEALTHY INDIVIDUAL'S MANSION, AND HE HAS CUT OFF ALL COMMUNICATION WITH THE [redacted]
MORE THAN TEN GIRLS HAVE GONE MISSING, ALL OF THEM IN THE PRIME OF THEIR YOUTH.


YOU IDIOT.
IF IT WERE BRIGHT, I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO COME OUT.

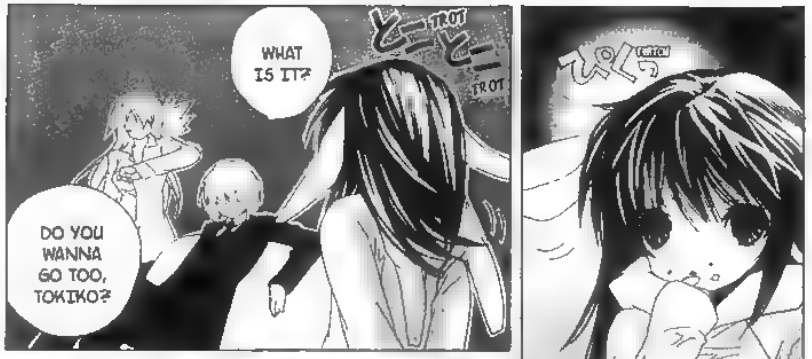
HE LURED THE WOMEN IN BY OFFERING EXCEPTIONAL WAGES.
AND HAD THEM WORK AS MAIDS IN HIS HOME.

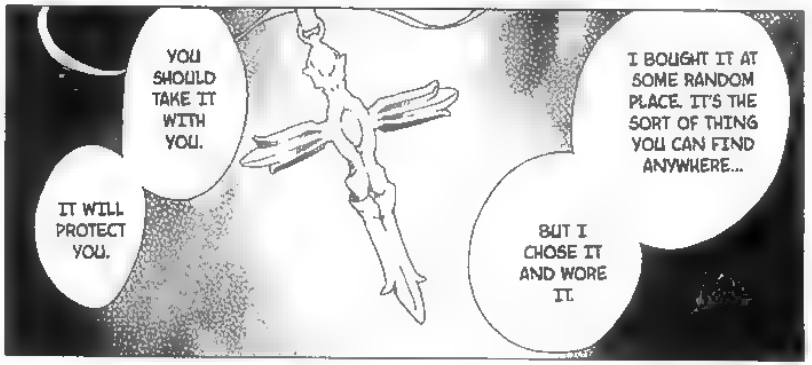

UMMM.
THERE'S OBVIOUSLY SOMETHING SUSPICIOUS ABOUT THIS. SHOULDN'T THE POLICE HANDLE IT?
ALSO, WHY DO WE HAVE TO MEET IN THE DARK LIKE THIS?

MAHIME YOSHINO. 18 YEARS OLD.
SHE ACTUALLY WORKS FOR NANAMI INVESTIGATORS OF PARANORMAL PHENOMENA.
HOWEVER...
SHE HAS TAKEN ON A SPECIAL MISSION AND IS NOW WORKING UNDERCOVER AS A MAID!
AM I REALLY GONNA BE ABLE TO DO THIS?
I-I'M SORRY! I FORGOT.
PHEW
ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
MISS TOKIKO?
PEOPLE DISAPPEARING FROM A MANSION?

WELL, THIS WEALTHY INDIVID-UAL IS...
A "BLUE BLOOD", AS THEY WOULD CALL HIM.
WHOA!
YAHIRO??
DID YOU CALL HER, ASAGI?
UNLESS HE HAD HELP FROM SOMEONE, OR SOME-THING.
SO THE POLICE AND INVESTI-[redacted] HESITANT TO GET INVOLVED.
FAR TOO OLD FOR MUCH TROUBLE-MAKING.
AT ANY RATE, HE IS 90 YEARS OLD, AND
SO THAT'S WHY WE WERE REQUESTED TO INVESTI-GATE THIS MATTER.
YOU UNDER-STAND NOW?
OH...!
FREAKS...

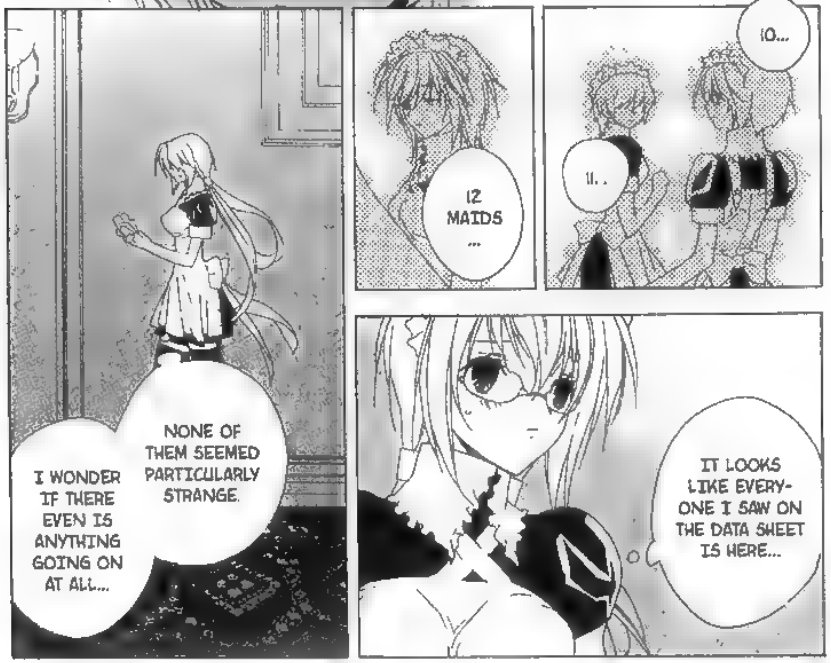
REMINDS ME OF TIFFAUGES CASTLE.
BLUE BEARD WENT FOR YOUNG BOYS THOUGH.
GO THERE.
AND CONDUCT AN UNDERCOVER INVESTIGA-TION
WHAT DO YOU WANT US TO DO?
SO...
MY DEAR ASAGI.
WHY ARE YOU LOOKING AT ME?
WHAT/?
I'M CON-CERNED ABOUT MY SAFETY.
I'D DRESS LIKE A WOMAN AND GO MYSELF, BUT SOME PEOPLE MIGHT ENJOY THAT TOO MUCH.


WHAT IS IT?
とーとー TROT TROT
DO YOU WANNA GO TOO, TOKIKO?
ひくっ (sniff)
?
YOU CAN BORROW THIS, THEN.


YOU SHOULD TAKE IT WITH YOU.
IT WILL PROTECT YOU.
I BOUGHT IT AT SOME RANDOM PLACE. IT'S THE SORT OF THING YOU CAN FIND ANYWHERE...
BUT I CHOSE IT AND WORE IT.

MISS YOSHINO.

THANK YOU.
O-OK...
GOOD WORK.
WHEN YOU'VE PUT THOSE AWAY, YOU CAN CALL IT A DAY.
YES?


I WONDER IF THERE EVEN IS ANYTHING GOING ON AT ALL...
NONE OF THEM SEEMED PARTICULARLY STRANGE.
12 MAIDS ...
11..
10...
IT LOOKS LIKE EVERY-ONE I SAW ON THE DATA SHEET IS HERE...

EEEP!
CATCH
Y-YOU WENT BACK TO NORMAL/
UM, LET'S SEE. CLOTHES/ CLOTHES/
JUMP
OH/ SORRY/ FOOD FIRST.
BLINK
SWITCH
TO...
MISS TOKIKO?

AH/
YES?
WHAT IS IT?
MISS YOSHINO,
ARE YOU...
I THOUGHT SO. IT'S F...
HOW UNFAIR...
SQUISH
UM...
WHAT ARE YOU...
SQUEEZE
KNOCK
MISS TOKIKO ...?
DID YOU BEHAVE YOUR-SELF?
?
?

FREEKSH!

WHAT ?

MISS TOKIKOOOO!
DON'T LEAVE THE ROOM!
DASH
SKKING
HEY!
MISS TOKIKO!!

TOKIKO!!
MISS TOKIKO!!
SHOCK
WH-
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
あ
あ
あ
OUT OF RANGE
I'LL CALL ASAGI...
THAT'S RIGHT!
WAIT...

ぽと
PLOP
TO...
//
AWWW.
MISS TOKIKOOOO!
WHISPER
WHERE DID YOU GO?
HUH?
MOO
WHAT?
ARE-ARE YOU ALRIGHT/?
MISS TOKIKO!
SHAKE
SHAKE
YOU'RE TOO HUNGRY TO MOVE?
SHE'S OUT COLD.
OH MY...
///

A LIGHT...
I WONDER WHOSE ROOM THAT IS.
!!

DID HE CATCH ME/?
!!
WHAT A SURPRISE.
YOU'RE HERE.
YOU'RE JUST THE MASTER'S TYPE.
STOP!

A FREAK!!
AN ORGY/? I'M GONNA FAINT..
NO...
I'M SENS-ING..

WHAT ARE..
YOU. .
GOING TO...
DO...
TO ME?
EEK!

PLEASE STOP!
SS
STOP!
EEEEE!
YAHIRO!
NOOO !!
JEEZ...
!!

SHOO
AH..
AH..
UNG.
GJSSSH
GLURRGG
GHSSH
MM
MHN

CALL ME AT THE WORST POSSIBLE MOMENT, MAHIME, YOU MORON.
YOU ALWAYS, ALWAYS, ALWAYS...
WELL, THIS TIME...
I'LL FORGIVE YOU OUT OF RESPECT FOR ASAGI.
BOOM
DEAR.
YOU'RE MINE,

GRAB
SHARM...
TOKIKO, YOU IDIOT!!
CRAP...
...UG...
ASAGI...

FREEKSH!
TOKIKO!!
CUDDLE
HOP
FSNCH
SHWOOO
OVER THERE!
TOKIKO!
FHHHHH
FSHHHHH
HEY!
DON'T EAT ME!
I'M NOT FOOD!

SPLAT
SPLAT
SHATTER
AAAH
AHHH
MASTER/
MASTER/
GROOO

HYOOM

STAB
TWITCH
TWITCH
CHOMP
MUNCH
SCARF
CHEW
ALRIGHT, TOKIKO
DON'T LEAVE ANY LEFTOVERS.
SWALLOW
PUNCH
I WONDER SHE GET THE KNIFE AND FORK FROM?
MR. ASAGI...
PANT.

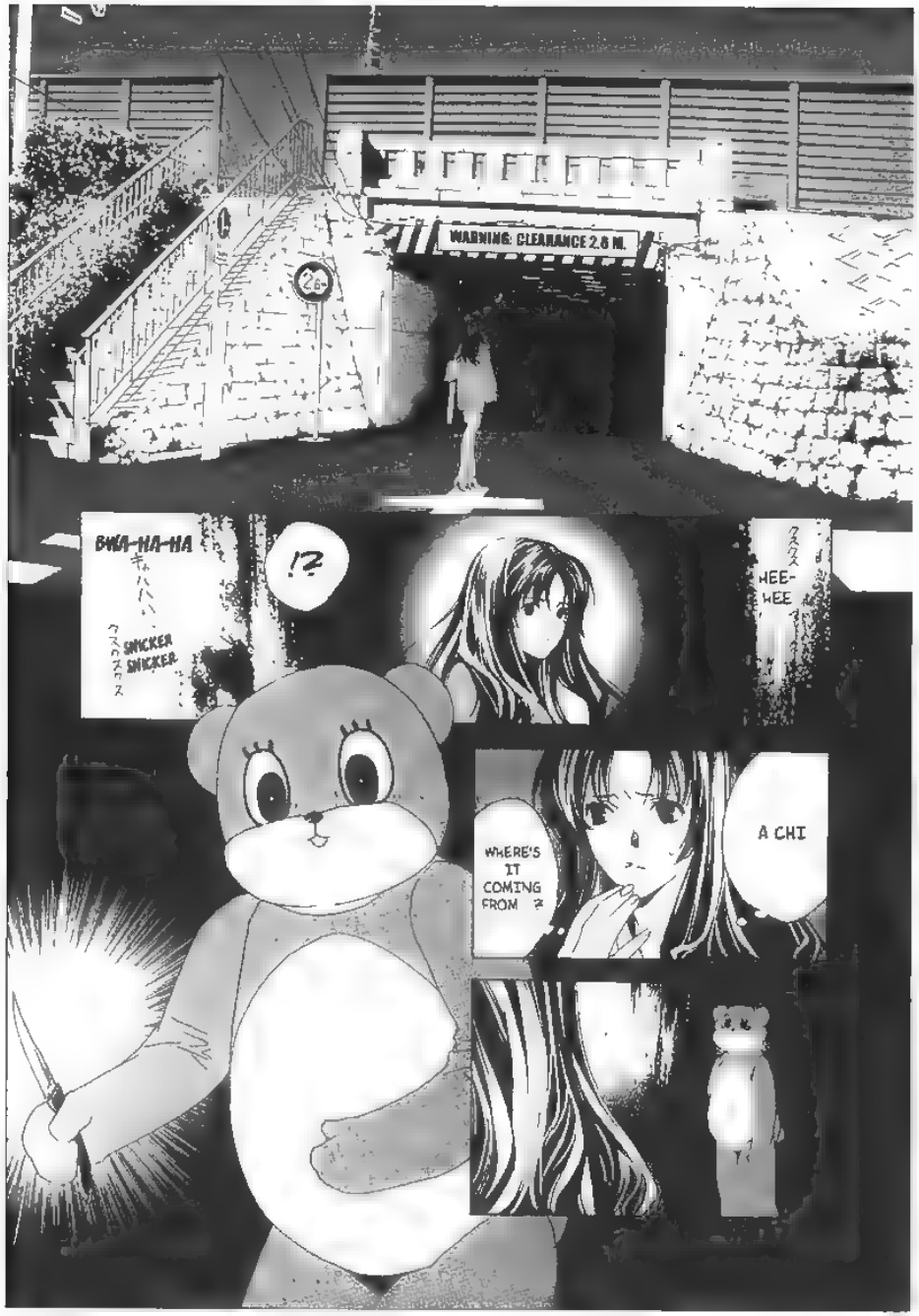
THE STAND,
HAS COME.
YOUR NATURAL ENEMY...

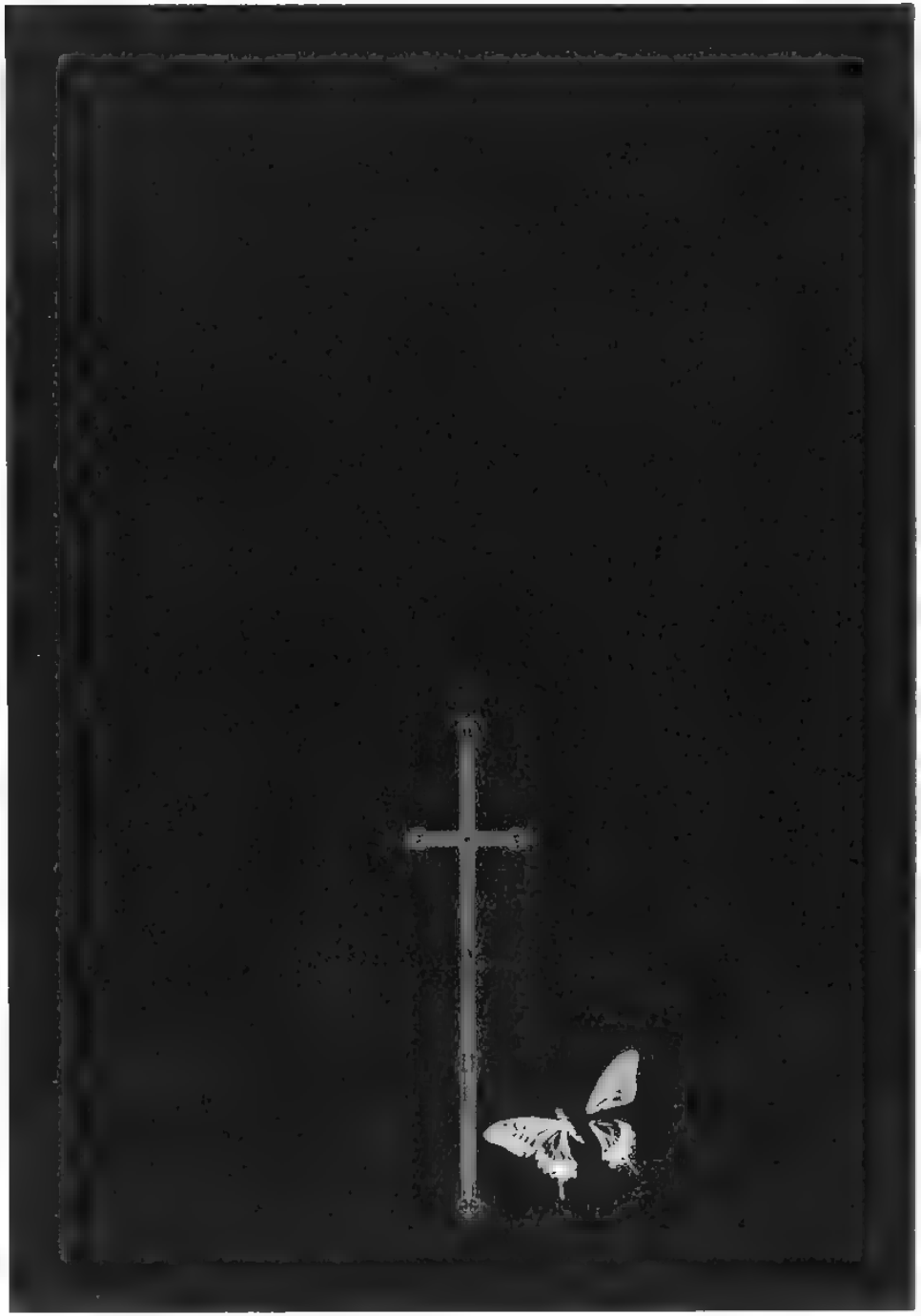
AND SO?
MORE LIKE THE PRODUCT OF A SICK OLD MAN'S FANTASY.
IT WASN'T MUCH LIKE BLUE-BEARD...
IN CONCLUSION, WHAT KIND OF CASE WAS IT?
VOUCHERS
AWW...
THIS IS THE FIFTH REWRITE.
YOU WORK HERE, DON'T YOU? SO WRITING A REPORT IS PART OF THE JOB.
I'M JUST AN ASSISTANT!
THE GIRLS WERE ALL HALF HYPNOTIZED. BUT,
EVERYONE CAME BACK TO THEIR SENSES AFTERWARDS.
HEY, MAHIME!
HOWEVER ..
Y-
YES?
REWRITE THE REPORT.

MASTER!
MASTER!
MASTER!
BURRP

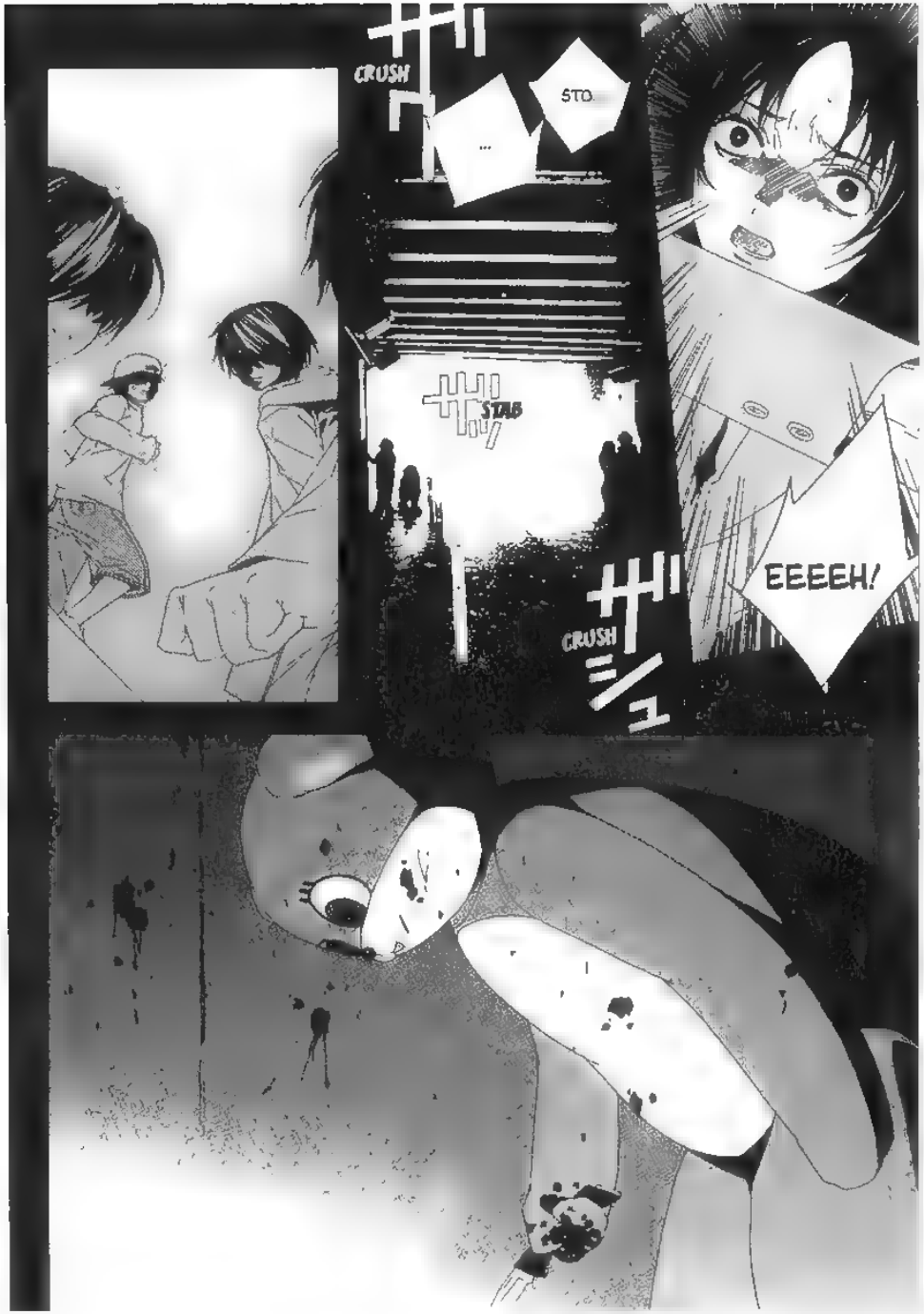
act.3

I DON'T UNDER-STAND WOMEN ...
WHAT? WHY NOT?
APPARENTLY, NONE OF THE GIRLS HAVE QUIT WORKING AT THE MANSION DESPITE THE INCIDENT.
OR MAYBE THEY ENJOYED THEIR NIGHTLY FUN.
WHO KNOWS? MAYBE THEY'RE AFTER THE OLD MAN'S MONEY.
IF IT DOES, I'M NOT HAVING ANYTHING TO DO WITH IT.
IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN THOSE GIRLS WHO CALLED IT.
THEY CAN DO WHAT THEY WANT.
SO IT MIGHT COME BACK AGAIN.


WARNING: CLEARANCE 2.6 M.
BWA-HA-HA
SNICKER SNICKER
!?
HEE-HEE
WHERE'S IT COMING FROM ?
A CHI



SNARL
TWITCH
HAHAHAHA


CRUSH
STO
...
STAB
CRUSH
EEEEH!

12.00 DOLLARS AN HOUR/?
LECTURERS WANTED!
講師募集!
時給
1200円
IT'S LIKE A DREAM...
A CRAM SCHOOL... AND IT'S REAL CLOSE TO WORK.
WE ONLY GET 5 DOLLARS AN HOUR/
THAT'S NOT EVEN MINIMUM WAGE/
I WONDER IF ASAGI KNOWS THAT.
OH/
LOOKING FOR A JOB?
YOU'RE AMANO, AREN'T YOU?

MANABE.
FUYUMI MANABE.
YEAH...
UM, YOU'RE IN MY GENERAL ED CLASS...
I'M JUST A POOR STUDENT/
THE PLACE I WORK FOR NOW DOESN'T PAY WEL...
THE KIDS ARE IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, SO THEY CAN BE A BIT DIFFICULT..
A LOT OF TEACHERS QUIT RECENTLY, SO WE'RE SHORT ON STAFF.
THAT AD YOU WERE JUST LOOKING AT,
I WORK THERE, SO IF YOU'D LIKE, I CAN HOOK YOU UP.
WITH THE $12 AN HOUR PAY/?
WHAT, THIS ONE/?
AND A LOT'S BEEN GOING ON LATELY.
BUT IT'S JUST A DIFFICULT AGE.
OH, THEY'RE ALL GOOD KIDS.
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLERS ARE DIFFICULT, HUH?

SHOT DOWN
一刀両断
HMM.
THIS CRIME SCENE ISN'T FAR FROM HERE.
HAHAHA.
OH WELL...
FLOOMP
5月12日 MAY 12, 2004
またも切り裂き魔
RIPPER STRIKES AGAIN
犯人は“着ぐるみの男
HUH?
THE RIPPER? NOT AGAIN...
THAT ANIMAL SUIT GUY, RIGHT?
THIS FIVE ATTACKS.
ALL OF THE VICTIMS WERE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHERS, EXCEPT ONE OF THEM WAS A COLLEGE STUDENT.
FORTUNATELY NO ONE'S DIED, BUT THE ATTACKS SEEM TO BE GETTING WORSE.

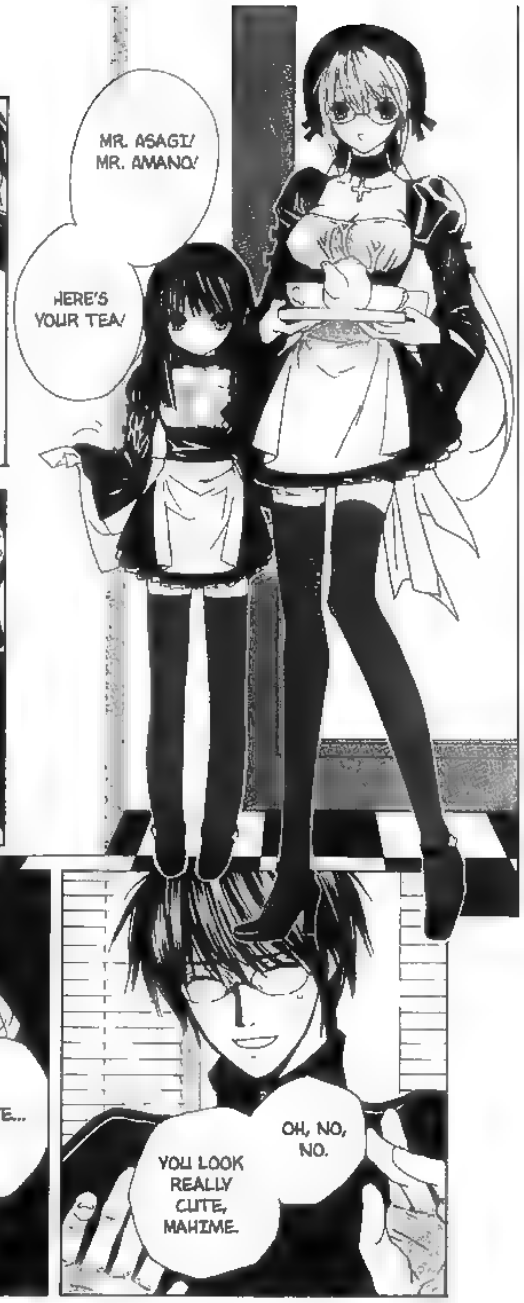
PLUS, I'D GET TO WORK WITH A HOT GIRL.
UH, SURE.
12 DOLLARS...
WELL, WILL YOU AT LEAST THINK ABOUT IT?
IT'D BE NICE TO HAVE A GUY AROUND.
AND I WONDER IF ASAGI'D GIVE ME A RAISE...
HMMM.
IT'S TEMPTING...
NO.
売売新聞

HER FAVORITE FOOD.
SMELL LIKE...
SHE'S BITING YOU BECAUSE YOU..
BITE カリ
CUTE
YEAH, YEAH, YOU'RE CUTE TOO, TOKIKO.
WHAT? ARE YOU HUNGRY?
SMELL...?
FLOP
WELL, THEN.

WHAT, YOU WANNA WEAR ONE TOO?
OF COURSE NOT!
WERE THOSE OUTFITS YOUR IDEA?

OH... DOES IT...
NOT SUIT ME?

BLUSH
CUTE...

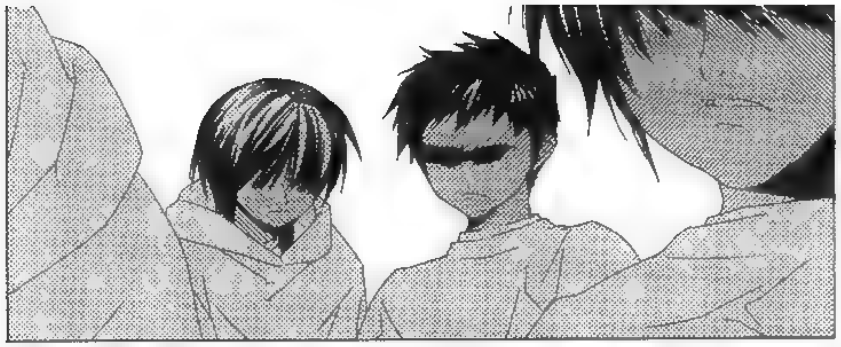

MR. ASAGI/ MR. AMANO/
HERE'S YOUR TEA/
OH, NO, NO.
YOU LOOK REALLY CUTE, MAHIME.

I GUESS IT'S ABOUT TIME WE...
GOT WORD FROM "THE TOP".

BE QUIET!
RETURN TO YOUR SEATS!
GET IN YOUR SEATS!!

BWAHAHAHA
HAHAHA

IF YOU'RE NOT GOING TO STUDY, GET OUT!!



STOMP
RUFFLE
LET'S GO, THIS SUCKS.
LOSER.
THIS IS SO LAME. WE CAN'T EVEN HAVE A LITTLE FUN...

...
LET'S START CLASS...
SLAM

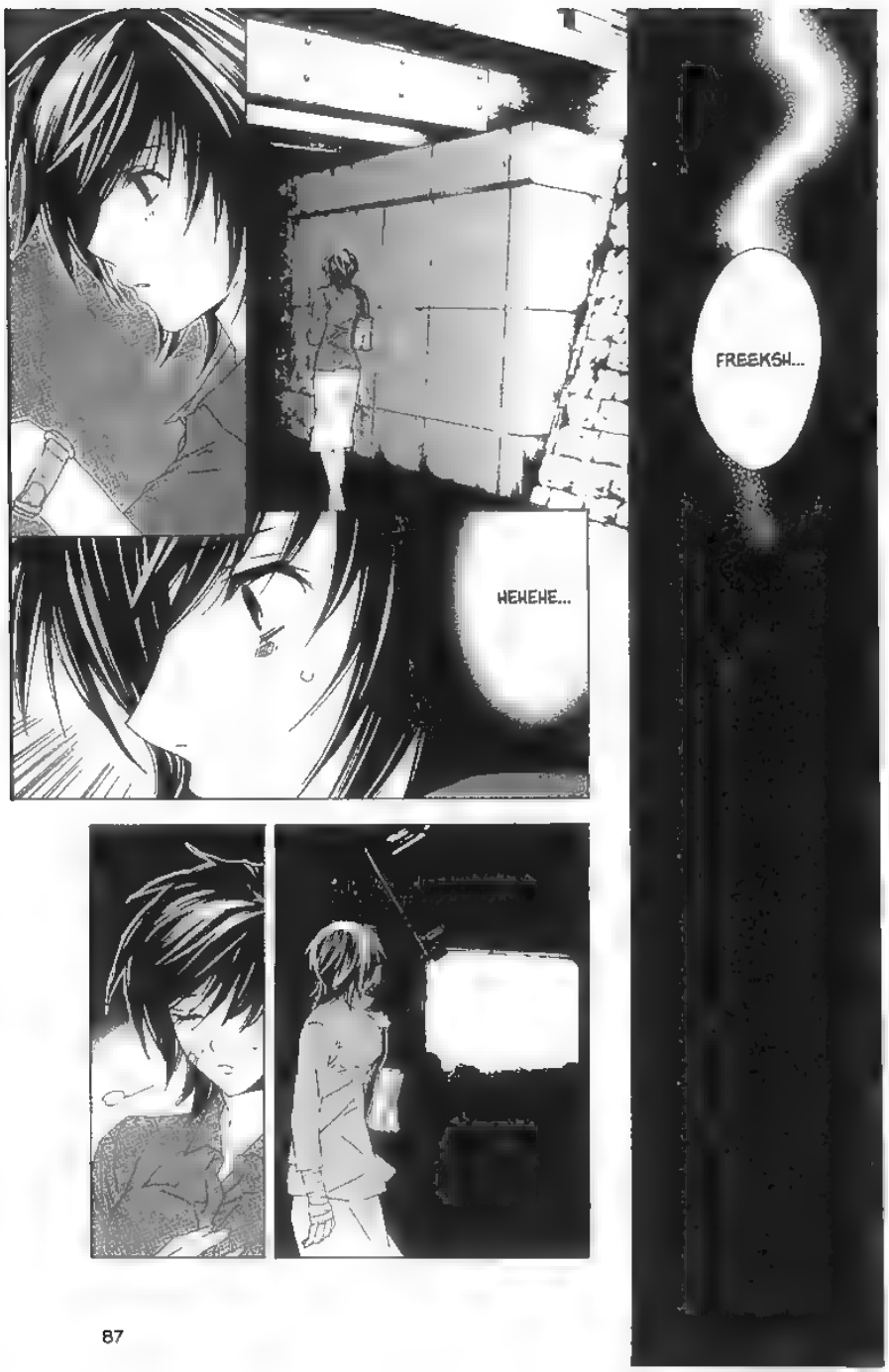
TWITCH
SNIFF
SNIFF
MI-
GONE.
?
MISS TOKIKO?

SHOPPING
SHOPPING
I'M SO HAPPY, I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO!
SO VERY HAPPY!
OINK
TEE-HEE!
MR. AMANO SAID I WAS ...
CUTE!♥
HAPPY! SHOPPING!
TURN
MISS TOKIKO?
ISN'T IT NICE,
SMACK

DASH
DROOL
WHAT THE HELL IS SHE?
OW! SHE BIT ME!
WHAT THE HELL IS YOUR PROBLEM!?
NASTY.
GO AWAY.
BAM
KICK 'ER! KICK 'ER!
BAM
SHE'S LIKE A BALL!
AHAHAHA!

TAP
TAP
TAP
WANNA DO IT AGAIN?
NOTHING ELSE WE CAN DO.
DAMN, SHE REALLY PISSES ME OFF.
WE'RE THE ONES PAYING HER TO TEACH!
SHE'S ONLY A DUMB COLLEGE STUDENT AND SHE'S TRYING TO BOSS US AROUND.
SHE SHOULD BE THE ONE TO "GET OUT," NOT US!

!!
MISS TOKIKO!
CRAP! RUN!
HEY!
COME ON! HURRY!
MISS TOKIKO!
GRRRR
M-MISS TOKIKO
WHAT HAP-PENED?
OUCH!!


FREEKSH...
HEHEHE...

SIGH
MAYBE I CAN HAVE TWO JOBS...
A WHOLE 12 DOLLARS...
EEEE

MY WORK ISN'T FAR.
YOU CAN REST UP THERE.
WOBBLE
AH!
ARE YOU REALLY OK?
AMANO.
MANABE!?
OH.
SNIFF
MR. AMANO...

TEDDY BEAR.
FREEKSH!
TWITCH
WHAT HAP-PENED, MAHIME?
AND TOKIKO?
MAHIME!
I WAS WITH HER AND I STILL LET THIS HAPPEN.
SHE GOT HURT.
FREEKSH!
I UNDER-STAND.
WE'LL TAKE THE CASE.

BEEP

THIS IS SO UNREALISTIC, IT'S RIDICULOUS.
MY GOOD-NESS.

THEY CALL TERROR FROM THE DEPTHS...
BUT, NOT UNDER-STANDING THAT TER-ROR...
THEY STUFF IT INTO SOME STUFFED ANIMAL AND MAKE IT'S MALICE APPEAR INNOCENT?

WHAT..
...ARE YOU...?
THEIR NATURAL ENEMY AND HUNTER..
A STAND.

SWARM
!!
STAB

MAN, SHUT UP ALREADY.
YOU SCREWED UP.
DAMN.
!
HEY!
LOOK OVER THERE.
DO IT RIGHT THIS TIME.
YOU...

STAB
STAB
IS HE DEAD?
HE STOPPED MOVING.
WHISH

YOU WERE CALLED FROM THE DEPTHS, AND THIS IS THE BEST YOU CAN DO?
THIS IS LITERALLY CHILD'S PLAY.
SMILE
YOU'VE GOTTA DO BETTER THAN THAT.
THIS CRACKS ME UP.

FSSHP
FSSHP
FSSHP
GLARE
HERE'S A SPECIAL LESSON FOR YOU...
YOU FOOLISH CHILDREN WHO DON'T FEAR THE NIGHT.
IT'S TERROR TIME.

FWIP
BOUNCE
!?
98

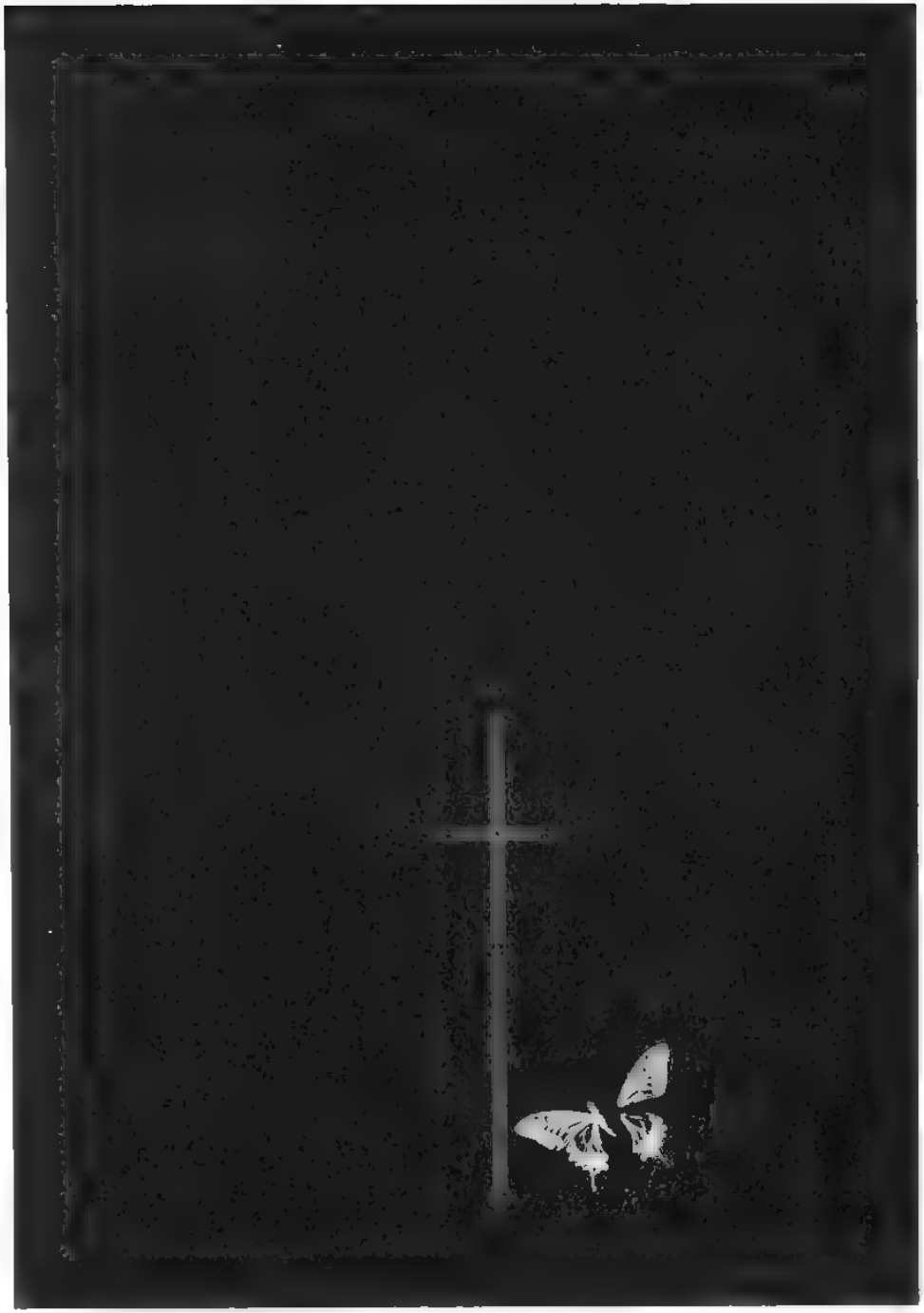
AMANO!
THANKS FOR WHAT YOU DID THE OTHER DAY.
NAH, IT WAS NOTHING.
MANABE.
YEAH. I REALLY DO LIKE KIDS. I WANT TO BE A TEACHER SOMEDAY.
WHAT!? YOU'RE STILL WORKING THERE?
AFTER ALL THAT'S HAPPENED?
DID YOU THINK ABOUT IT?
AND ABOUT WORKING AT THE CRAM SCHOOL,

SO I CAN STAND UP FOR MYSELF NEXT TIME.
THAT'S WHY I'M GOING TO WORK ON BEING STRONGER.
OF COURSE I'M SCARED ABOUT THAT, BUT...
BUT... WHAT IF YOU SEE THOSE KIDS AGAIN...?
YOUR ANSWER?
SO, AMANO ...
GIRLS SURE ARE STRONG...
SORRY...

act.4

HELLO, MR. AMANO.
OH!
WHAT'S WRONG? YOU HAVE AN ODD LOOK ON YOUR FACE.
I'VE NEVER SEEN THOSE CLOTHES BEFORE!
I TOLD YOU BEFORE,
ASAGI!
YOU'RE WASTING OUR FUNDS!
IF YOU WANT TO WEAR ONE, YOU CAN.
GIVE ME A RAISE INSTEAD!
I WON'T!

WHY?
STILL HERE?
WHY AM I...



RRRING
RRRING
RRRRING
RRRING
RRRING
RRRING

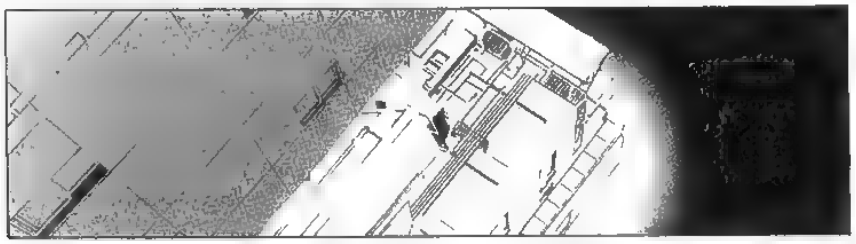
AN ATTEMPTED GROUP SUICIDE?
NANAMI INVESTIGATORS OF PARANORMAL PHENOMENA
那波超常事件調査
BUT THERE'S NO CONNECTION BETWEEN ANY OF THEM.
EVEN THE LOCATIONS ARE DIFFERENT, RANGING FROM HOTELS TO PRIVATE HOMES.
THEY'RE ALL SAYING THE EXACT SAME THING.
?
WHAT MAKES IT A 'GROUP' THEN?
THE KEY WORD IS "WOMAN".

SOMETHING EACH OF THE "VICTIMS" WERE CARRYING.
FOUR OF THEM ALL TOGETHER.
WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO FIGURE THINGS OUT FROM HERE.
AMANO ...
YES, BOSS.
WHAT IS IT?
?
THIS IS...
YAHIRO!
COME WITH ME.
WE'LL TRACK THE SCENT FROM THE SCENE.

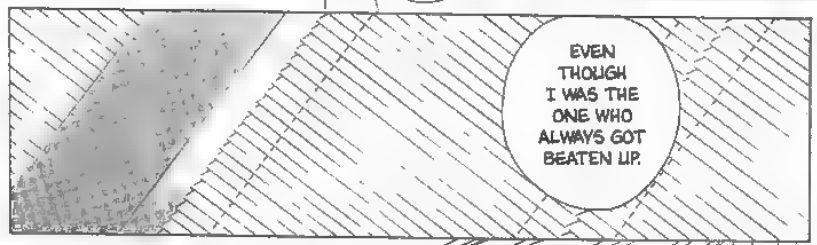
IT'S ONE JUST LIKE YOU.
WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY ABOUT WOMEN?
DESPITE THE FACT THAT THESE PEOPLE WERE CLEARLY FOUND ATTEMPTING SUICIDE ALONE,
SO...
THESE MEN ALL CLAIM TO HAVE BEEN COMMITTING A DOUBLE SUICIDE WITH A WOMAN.
YAHIRO,
IT'S ONE OF YOURS.
WE'RE LOOKING FOR THE FEMALE FREAK WHO'S SUPPOSED TO NOT BE THERE.

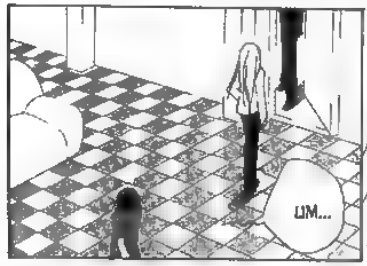
ALRIGHT, LET'S GET TO WORK.
I GUESS I'LL CALL THE CONTACT INFO ON THIS FLYER...

HMM?
TUG
TUG



THE HEAT, HUMIDITY, CICADAS, AND THE BRIGHT SUNLIGHT
ALL BRING BACK THE PAINFUL MEMORIES.
SHE HIDES FROM ALL THAT.
AROUND THIS SEA-SON...
IS MAKIME ...
GOING TO COME OUT AGAIN?
HEY, YAHIRO!


EVEN THOUGH I WAS THE ONE WHO ALWAYS GOT BEATEN UP.


UM...

TUG

LET'S GO, YAHIRO.

WHY AM I HERE?
WHY CAN'T I DIE?
WHY?

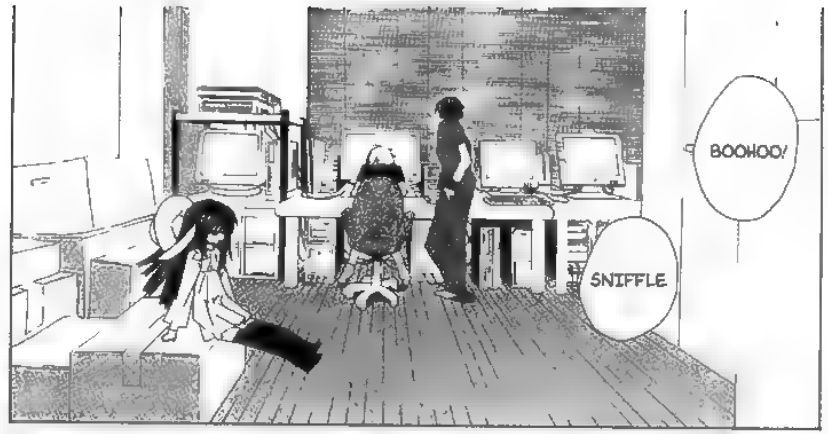
THERE WAS A WOMAN HERE.
I SMELL IT

EVEN THOUGH HE HAS ALREADY ROTTED AWAY.
YAHIRO.
YOU JUST GOT PULLED INTO IT, DID YOU?
DID YOU SEE ANY-THING?

THE NUMBER YOU HAVE DIALED IS CURRENTLY UNAVAILABLE.
YEAH. I RECOG-NIZE THIS FLYER.
I GET THE SAME THING NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I TRY.
YEAH, WHEN WAS THAT? I THINK WE ARGUED ABOUT IT.
HAS HE BEEN IN ANY OTHER TROUBLE RECENTLY?
SO IT'S A MISPRINT?
A GUY I KNOW IS IN THE TRADE.
SEEMS THEY HANDED OUT FLYERS WITH THE WRONG PHONE NUMBER ON IT.

HEY, MY GIRLS SAID THERE'S A GHOST IN ONE OF OUR ROOMS.
CAN YOU COME TAKE A LOOK ONE OF THESE DAYS?
OK, I'LL TELL MY BOSS.
HMM, NOT THAT I'VE HEARD, NO.
I GUESS MY ONLY CLUE IS THE CELL PHONE NUMBER.
HE SEEMS TO HAVE NO CONNECTION WITH OTHERS IN THE CALL GIRL INDUSTRY.
I REALLY DON'T WANT TO, BUT I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO ASK FOR HELP...
NOW TO IDENTIFY THE CELL PHONE'S OWNER...
NAOKIII!!

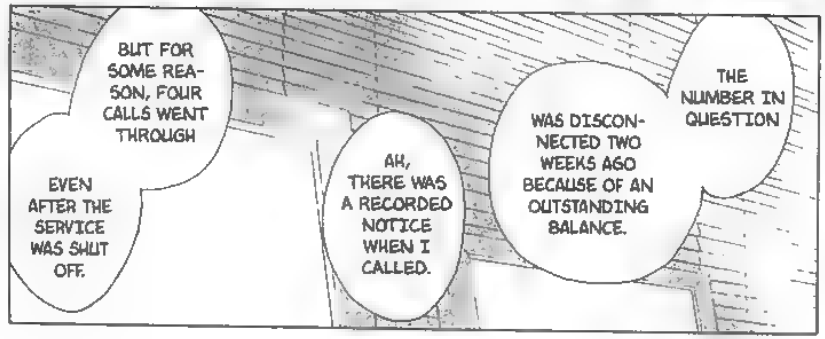
HELLO, AYU.
IT'S BEEN SO LONG/ I'VE MISSED YOU/
YOU NEVER COME SEE ME/
ANYWAY, THAT CASE I TOLD YOU ABOUT ON THE PHONE...
DO YOU THINK YOU CAN HELP?
HMMM, SHOULD I?
I DUNNO IF I CAN...
I GUESS IT'S UP TO YOU.
SO YOU CAN THEN.
TOKIKO/
AIIIEE/ NOOO/ A WOMAN!!?


BOOHOO!
SNIFFLE.

THAT'S INTERESTING.
IMPOSSIBLE, TOO.
FIND SOMETHING?

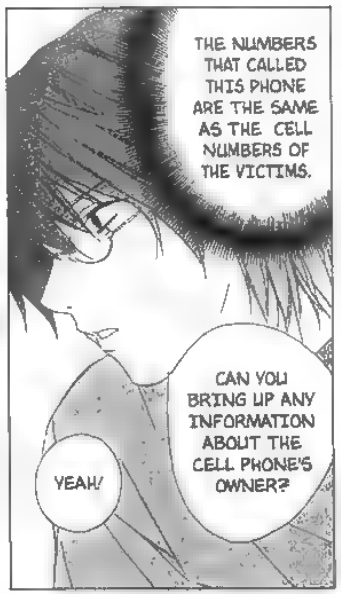
YOU'RE SO MEAN, NAOKI.
PLAYING WITH MY FEELINGS LIKE THAT.

?

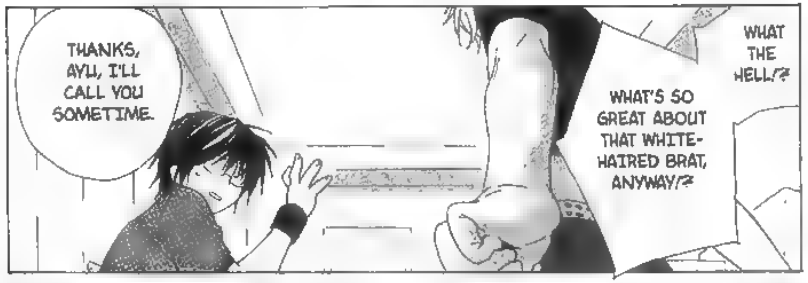

BUT FOR SOME REASON, FOUR CALLS WENT THROUGH
EVEN AFTER THE SERVICE WAS SHUT OFF.
AH, THERE WAS A RECORDED NOTICE WHEN I CALLED.
THE NUMBER IN QUESTION WAS DISCONNECTED TWO WEEKS AGO BECAUSE OF AN OUTSTANDING BALANCE.

UH, NO, I...
SO, SINCE I HELPED YOU OUT SO MUCH... CAN WE?
AN HOUR WOULD BE ENOUGH!

AKINORI KANZAKI, 26 YEARS OLD.
LIVES ALONE IN AN APARTMENT IN THE CITY.
THAT'S THE ADDRESS.


THE NUMBERS THAT CALLED THIS PHONE ARE THE SAME AS THE CELL NUMBERS OF THE VICTIMS.
CAN YOU BRING UP ANY INFORMATION ABOUT THE CELL PHONE'S OWNER?
YEAH!

EEEEEK!
TOKIKO! HELP!


THANKS, AYU, I'LL CALL YOU SOMETIME.
WHAT'S SO GREAT ABOUT THAT WHITE-HAIRED BRAT, ANYWAY!?
WHAT THE HELL!?

WAIT, NAOKI.

SQUEAK
SQUEAK
HMM?

AS YOU WISH.
I ASSUME THE REASON THEY'VE ALL BEEN 'SUICIDE ATTEMPTS' SO FAR
IS BECAUSE NONE OF THE VICTIMS HAD A REAL DESIRE TO DIE IN THE FIRST PLACE.
ASAGI ...
THEY LIVE IN A DELICATE BALANCE.
HUMANS ARE STUBBORN CREATURES, BUT...
PROTECTING SOMETHING SO FRAGILE.
IT'S TOUGH, YAHIRO...

PHO
BEEP
THAT'S HIS RING TONE?
PHONE CALL!
PHONE CALL!
AMANO?
IT'S SHOWING A FIFTH CALLER ON THAT CELL PHONE NUMBER.
WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO?
!
YEAH.
GOT IT.
IZUMI ...
TAKE US TO SUNNY-SHINE BUILDING IN IKEBUKURO.
!
THE FIFTH PERSON IS INSIDE THE HOTEL IN THAT BUILDING.

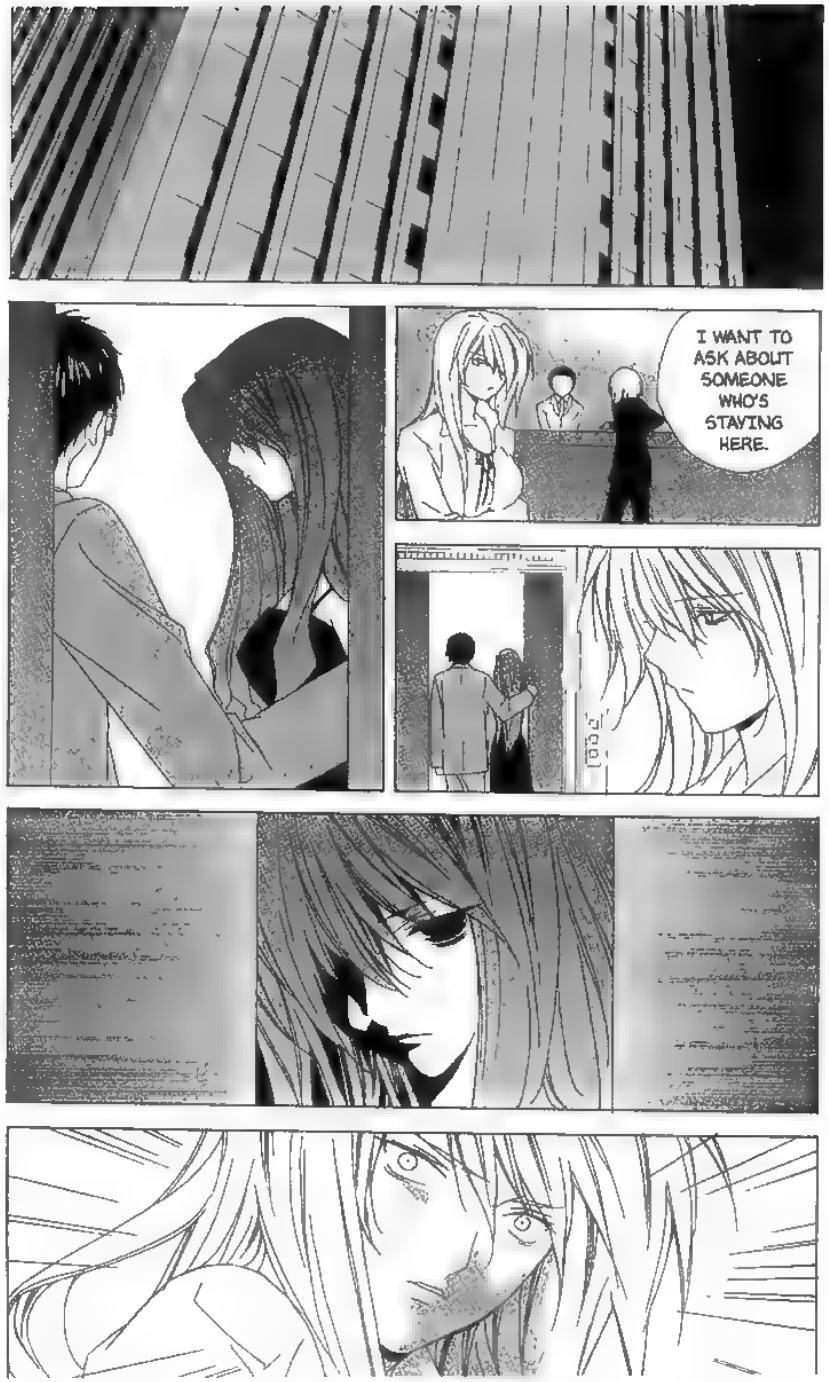
CREAAK
ARE YOU REALLY RELATED TO KANZAKI?
I'M GONNA BE THE ONE IN TROUBLE IF I LET YOU IN AND IT TURNS OUT YOU WERE LYING.
WHAT IS THAT AWFUL STENCH?
WH-
GUH

OW...
FOR EVERYONE.
THAT'S TRUE.
IT IS TOUGH.

I NEED SOME FRESH AIR.
I WANNA GO OUTSIDE.
WILL YOU STAY...
OUTSIDE.
HE-HEY, THERE.
I'LL PAY EXTRA, SO...
O-OK, LET'S GO TOGETHER THEN.

UNNNH
C-CALL THE POLICE!
THAT'S AN IMPRESSIVELY DECOMPOSED CORPSE.
SNIFF
SNIFF
WHOA...
IT'S SUMMER TOO.
THE WOMAN WHO SHOULD NOT HAVE BEEN...
WHAT?
FREEKSH!
THEN...
SHE WAS HERE.

ASAGI!
IT'S THE FREAK!
DAMMIT !!
H-HEY...
YOU.

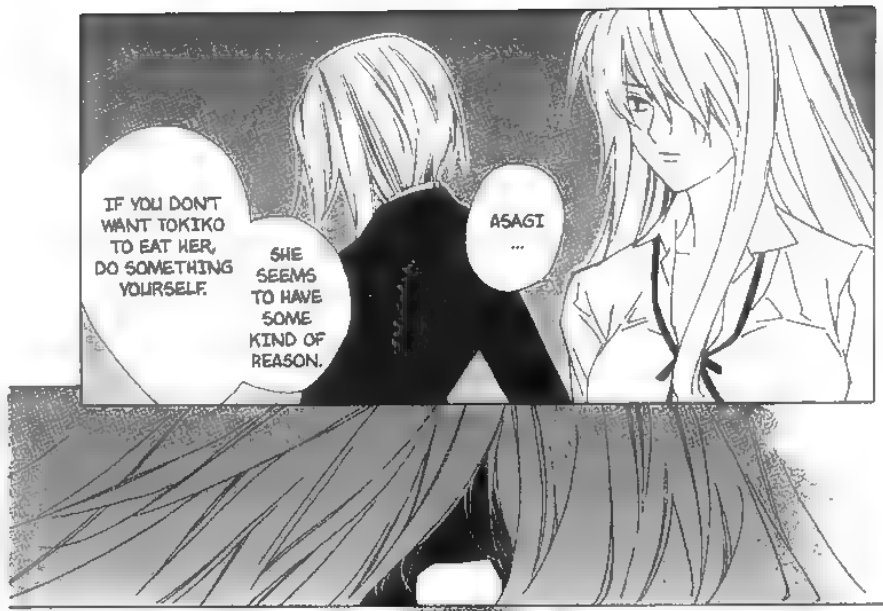

I WANT TO ASK ABOUT SOMEONE WHO'S STAYING HERE.

YOU'RE THE SAME AS ME...
SO WHY ARE YOU TRYING TO STOP ME?
YOU ARE..?
I JUST WANT
TO DIE WITH HIM.
AH...
AAAAAAAAAA
YOU KNOW ALREADY, DON'T YOU?
YOU WON'T DIE NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES YOU JUMP OFF.

SAY,
LET'S JUMP OFF TOGETHER.
WHAT?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
UH...
OK...
DO YOU THINK I'D DIE IF I JUMPED OFF OF HERE?
STOP.

FLASH
LURCH
WHOOSH!
THE STAND
HAS COME.

I'M LONELY.
I'M SO LONELY.
COME HERE.
INSIDE ME.
YOU CAN REST THERE.


ASAGI ...
SHE SEEMS TO HAVE SOME KIND OF REASON.
IF YOU DON'T WANT TOKIKO TO EAT HER, DO SOMETHING YOURSELF.

I HAVE NO REASON TO GO ON LIVING.
BUT SOMETHING TIES ME HERE.
HUMANS CALL ME
BUT THEY WON'T LET ME DIE.
THE ONE WHO FIRST CALLED ME HAS ALREADY DIED.

YOU'VE GOTTA BE KIDDING ME.
おもいやり
人に車に この缶に
安全で明るく住み良い街
POLICE STATION
WAS THAT CORPSE RELATED TO ANY OF THIS?
MAN, I WANNA TAKE A BATH
あーおふろはいりたい
YEAH,
THAT HE WAS THE ONE WHO CALLED HER IN THE FIRST PLACE
SHUT UP, ASAGI.
IT WAS AWFUL.
CRICK
GOOD WORK.
THAT'S HIM, OFFICER
I DIDN'T THINK THEY'D MAKE ME STAY THE NIGHT.
MY LIE WAS DISCOVERED AND THE APARTMENT MANAGER REPORTED ME TO THE COPS...
HUH?
I CAN'T MAKE HEADS OR TAILS OF THIS...
HE MUST HAVE BEEN HAPPY.
HE DIED OF A HEART ATTACK
WHILE HAVING SEX WITH HER.

IT DOESN'T ...
HURT ANY-MORE...
YES...
I AM ...
DISAP-PEARING.

extra art
畸~カテゴリ:フリークス~
xtra Act: Bizarre ategory: Freak

IT SEEMS LIKE THIS CASE AFFECTED HER IN SOME WAY.
YAHIRO WENT ON STRIKE.
HE-HEY! ASAGI!
ONLY HUMANS CAN HEAL THE WOUNDS OF HUMANS.
SO YOU TAKE CARE OF IT.
MAHIME?
WANNA HEAD BACK HOME?
...
UM...
YES.

HOW SCARY!
THE LIGHTS IN THIS HALL-WAY ARE OUT AGAIN.
LET'S HURRY AND HAND IN THE ATTEN-DANCE SHEET AND GET OUTTA HERE!
I DON'T WANNA WALK DOWN THERE!
BUT WE HAVE TO TO GET TO THE TEACHERS' OFFICE.
...?
MIHO?
YOU KNOW IT'S HERE THAT...
YOU'VE GOT SHORT HAIR, SO YOU'RE FINE, KYOKO.

IF ONLY I HADN'T MET HIM, I MIGHT HAVE HAD A NORMAL LIFE...
THERE, THERE. JUST THINK OF IT AS A FATEFUL MEETING.
THAT DOESN'T MAKE ME FEEL BETTER, IZUMI.
IT'S DESTINY.
PAT

WROTE THIS CHAPTER AS A STAND ALONE FOR A GIRLS' MYSTERY MAGAZINE BEFORE SIGNING ON WITH BIRZ COMICS IT SEEMS LIKE AGES AGO. I COULD NOT EVEN REMEMBER WHEN I WROTE IT UNTIL I SAW IT AGAIN, FOUR YEARS AGO THE DRAWINGS LOOK COMPLETELY DIFFERENT IT'S A LITTLE EMBARRASSING! ASAGI IS LOOKING PRETTY SPIFFY IN THAT STRING TIE AND AMANO IS IN MIDDLE SCHOOL. I BELIEVE I HAD DESIGNED TOKIKO AT THIS POINT, BUT I GUESS I NEVER GOT PAST JUST NAMING HER THERE IS NO SIGN OF EITHER MAKUME OR YAHIRO IN THIS VERSION. MY CON-CEPT FOR THE PLOT WHEN I WAS PLANNING THIS WAS "AN OCCULT HORROR STORY IN WHICH FEW DIE." THAT IS STILL THE BASIC CONCEPT OF THE SERIES.

SMELLS HORRIBLY ROTTEN.
THIS SCHOOL...
MY SOURCES WERE RIGHT.

SUCH LONG HAIR, WHAT A WASTE.
IT DOESN'T LOOK GOOD ON UGLY GIRLS LIKE YOU.
CUT IT OFF!
EEE...
AAHHHHH!

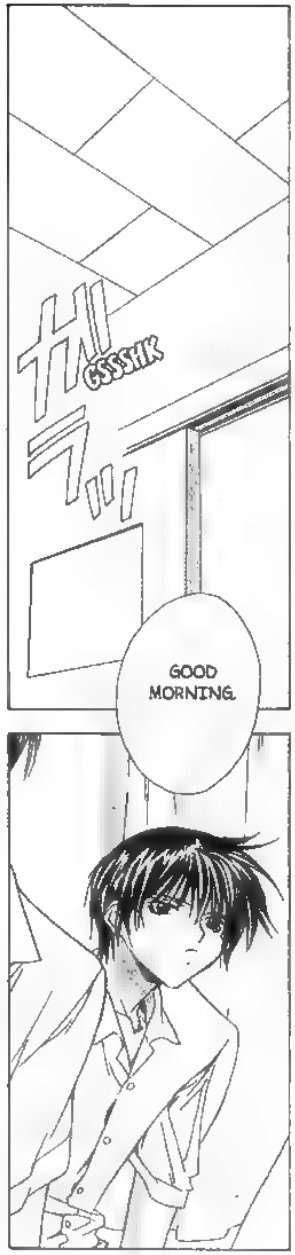
I KNOW THIS SMELL.
THERE'S NO DOUBT.
IT'S CATEGORY FREAKS.

DID YOU HEAR?
YEAH.
THEY SAID IT APPEARED AGAIN.
"KIRIKO" ...
WELL... A GHOST APPEARS AT THIS SCHOOL.
YOU PROBABLY DON'T KNOW THIS SINCE YOU JUST TRANSFERRED HERE. .
WHAT?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
AMANO?

A LONG TIME AGO, THERE WAS A GIRL WHO HUNG HERSELF IN THIS SCHOOL.
RUMOR SAYS THAT HER BOYFRIEND DUMPED HER FOR ANOTHER GIRL OR SOMETHING.
SUPPOSEDLY, SHE WAS A REALLY BEAUTIFUL GIRL WITH LONG HAIR.
AND HER GHOST APPEARS SOMETIMES
BUT ONLY TO GIRLS WITH LONG HAIR.
AND SHE ALWAYS SAYS, "CUT IT OFF!"
MIHO SAW HER YESTERDAY
BECAUSE SHE STILL HAD LONG HAIR.
SO THAT'S WHY YOU ALL HAVE SHORT HAIR?
YEAH, BECAUSE IT'S SCARY/ I CUT MINE, TOO.

"KIRIKO", HMM...
GIRLS ARE SCARY...
WE KEPT TELLING HER TO CUT IT, BUT SHE DIDN'T LISTEN.
MIHO KINDA DESERVED IT, THOUGH.
DON'T SAY THAT WE TOLD YOU THAT, THOUGH.
I'LL SHOW YOU TO YOUR CLASS-ROOM.
FOLLOW ME.
YOU...
THANK YOU.
I'M AN ALUMNI OF THIS SCHOOL,
SO IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS FEEL FREE TO ASK.

WE HAVE A NEW STUDENT.
COME ON IN.
HER NAME IS ASAGI NANAMI.
THUNK!
I HOPE YOU'LL ALL GET ALONG...
SHE'LL BE JOINING OUR CLASS STARTING TODAY.


GOOD MORNING.

YES?
UH...
NOTHING...

WHAT'S WRONG?
HEY!
HEY!!
STOP TALKING NON-SENSE!!
THAT GIRL?
KIRIKO?
FOR REAL?
THINGS ARE GETTING STRANGE...

EEE...
EYAA!
IT'S KIRIKO!!
THAT'S KIRIKO!
I-I SAW HER!!
MI-MIHO!
IT'S KIRIKO!

WHO'S KIRIKO?
I ALSO JUST TRANSFERRED HERE.
DON'T WORRY, I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT KIRIKO.
DAMN, SHE'S CUTE.
UHH...
I THINK IT'S REALLY MESSED UP THAT EVERY-ONE'S ACTING LIKE THIS, IT'S ONLY YOUR FIRST DAY HERE.
BUT DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
APPARENTLY, YOU LOOK JUST LIKE HER.
THEY SAY SHE'S A GHOST THAT APPEARS IN THIS SCHOOL.

I'M NAOKI AMANO.
NICE TO MEET YOU.
NANAMI, RIGHT?
HEY!

SO LOOK AT ME!

SO...
"KIRIKO" STARTED APPEARING THIS APRIL?

OF THE DIFFERENT BEING IN FRONT OF THEM.
THE GIRLS ARE SUBCONSCIOUSLY AWARE OF THE DIFFERENT SMELL...
...
INDEED.
RIGHT, IZUMI?
IT'S THINGS LIKE THIS THAT MAKE HUMANS WORTHY OPPO-NENTS.
LOOK...
THIS BEAUTIFUL HAIR!
I HATE HIM!
I HATE HIM!
MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN ANY-ONE ELSE'S!
ABOUT KIRIKO?
CAN YOU TELL ME MORE...
HUH?

WELL, WHAT DO YOU THINK?
NAOKI, DO YOU THINK...
I'M SOME SORT OF MYSTERIOUS GHOST?
N-NO!
OF COURSE NOT...
WELL THEN...
SHE'S EVEN CUTER UP CLOSE!
UH...
SURE.
WILL YOU HELP ME?
HELP ME PROVE THAT THERE'S NO CONNECTION BETWEEN ME AND KIRIKO.

WAIT A MINUTE.
HEY..
OH, THANKS, THAT'S ALL I NEED TO KNOW.
THAT'S ALL I HEARD.
I DON'T KNOW WHY THOUGH.
NANAMI?
YOU'RE NOT REALLY CONNECTED TO KIRIKO IN SOME WAY, ARE YOU?
WHY DID YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT THIS?

RIGHT, IZUMI?
I SUPPOSE SO.
WITH GUYS LIKE HIM, I WON'T BE BORED.
THE HUMAN LIFE ISN'T SO BAD.

A STUDENT DIRECTORY?
WAS IT ONO?
OH... UMM...
I WANTED TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT SOME-THING.
IT'S AMANO.
MR. HIROSE.
MR. HIROSE!

SO I WAS WONDERING IF I COULD LOOK AT SOME OLD DIRECTORIES TO CHECK...
YES.
MY MOTHER'S COUSIN'S HUS-BAND'S LONG LOST BROTHER MIGHT HAVE GONE TO THIS SCHOOL.

YOU'RE EVIL.
YOU COM-PLETELY FOOLED THAT BOY.
DRESSING LIKE A GIRL IS MORE TIR-ING THAN I EXPECTED.

SO WHAT WAS I SUPPOSED TO LOOK FOR?
UH... UMM...
YOU KNOW,
MR. HIROSE ALWAYS SEEMS A BIT OUT OF IT.

THERE IS ONLY THAT ROTTEN SMELL.
THERE'S PROBABLY NO FLESH REMAINING.
IT'S SUCH A NUISANCE...
NANAMI?
AND YET, I'M STILL HERE BEING HELD BY SOMETHING.

BUT I ALWAYS GO AROUND THIS WAY.
OH... YEAH.
ISN'T THE TEACHERS' OFFICE THAT WAY...?
COME WITH ME TO THE TEACHER'S OFFICE.
I'LL LEND YOU THE KEY TO THE RECORDS ROOM THEN.
HE ACTUALLY BELIEVES ME!?
HUH. ?
OH, OK!

IN THE HALL ON THE WAY TO THE TEACHERS' OFFICE?
DIDN'T THE GIRLS SAY KIRIKO APPEARS...
OH!
WHEN YOU'RE DONE, REMEMBER TO BRING BACK THE KEY.
MR. HIROSE MUST BE AFRAID TOO, IF HE AVOIDS THAT HALL.
I WILL.
THANK YOU.

OK? COME ON.
THEY MUST HAVE.
JEALOUSY, SPITE, HATRED...
IT'S A VORTEX OF NEGATIVE EMOTION.
PEOPLE THINK YOU'RE KIRIKO BECAUSE OF THAT LONG HAIR...
OK? SO YOU SHOULD JUST CUT IT.
IT SEEMS LIKE THEY'RE INFECTED BY THE FREAK.
CUT IT OFF!
SO I WAS THE CATALYST?
IT SEEMS SHE HAS BEEN ACTIVATED BY YOUR POWERS, MASTER ASAGI.
WARN ME NEXT TIME!
THUD

SORRY ABOUT THIS MORNING.
MIHO DIDN'T MEAN ANY HARM. PLEASE FORGIVE HER.
SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT...
WELL, HERE.
OH, GOOD.
YOU HAVE TO DO IT, NANAMI.
WHAT'S GOING ON...?
...
IT'S OK, I'M NOT UPSET ABOUT IT.

MASTER ASAGI.
SHALL I COME OUT?
YOU CAN'T HARM HUMANS.
NO... DON'T.
JERK
GRAB
SLASH
AAIIIEEE!
THAT HURTS!!
OWW!

DAMN THAT GIRL!
LET'S GET HER!
I HATE YOU!
I HATE YOU!
LONG-HAIRED BITCH!

MR. HIROSE..
MR...
MR. HIROSE.
KIRIKO COULDN'T POSSIBLY EXIST!!
YEAH. IT'S JUST A SCRATCH.
DAMMIT! THIS IS RIDICULOUS!
THEY'VE GONE BACK TO NORMAL?
YOUR CHEEK IS BLEEDING. ARE YOU OK?

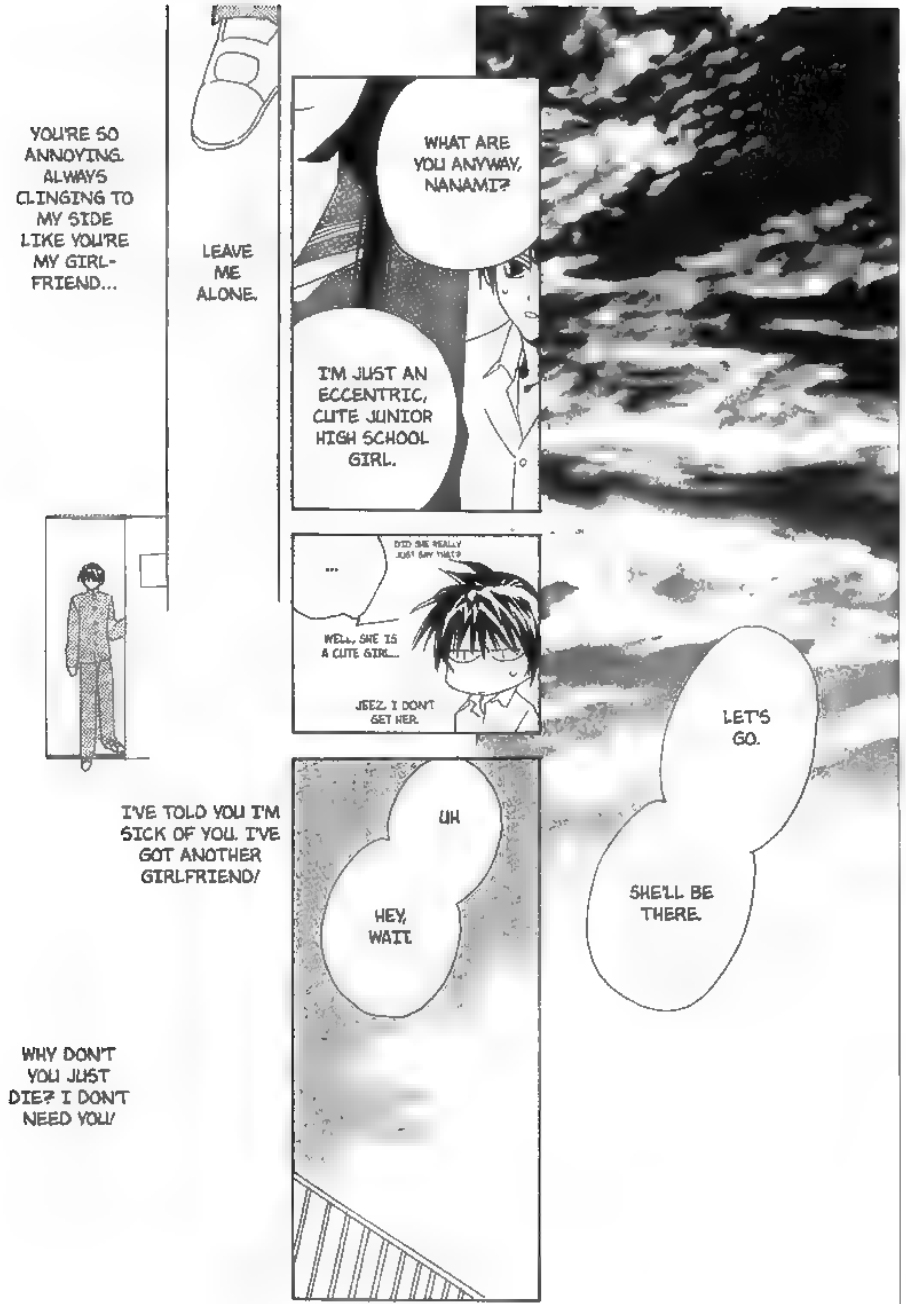
WHY ARE YOU HERE?
WHAT IS IT THAT YOU HATE?
WHO ARE YOU?
AH...
AGH...
I WON'T...
I WON'T LET ANYONE...
HAVE YOU...
KOICHI?
KOICHI...
HEY!
WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING!?

HEEY, NANAMI!
I FOUND IT!
I KNOW WHO KIRIKO IS!
IS THIS MAN CONNECTED TO IT?!
WELL, IF YOU EVER NEED HELP AGAIN,
DON'T HESITATE TO ASK.
!?
NO, THAT'S NOT HER TRUE FORM.
IT'S JUST A RESIDUAL IMAGE AND AN OLD ONE AT THAT.

DON'T TOUCH HER!
DON'T LET IT BOTHER YOU.
IT WOULD BE SUCH A WASTE.
TO CUT SUCH BEAUTIFUL HAIR.
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
DON'T TOUCH HER!
ONLY LOOK AT ME!!
DON'T TOUCH HER!
DON'T TOUCH OTHER WOMEN!

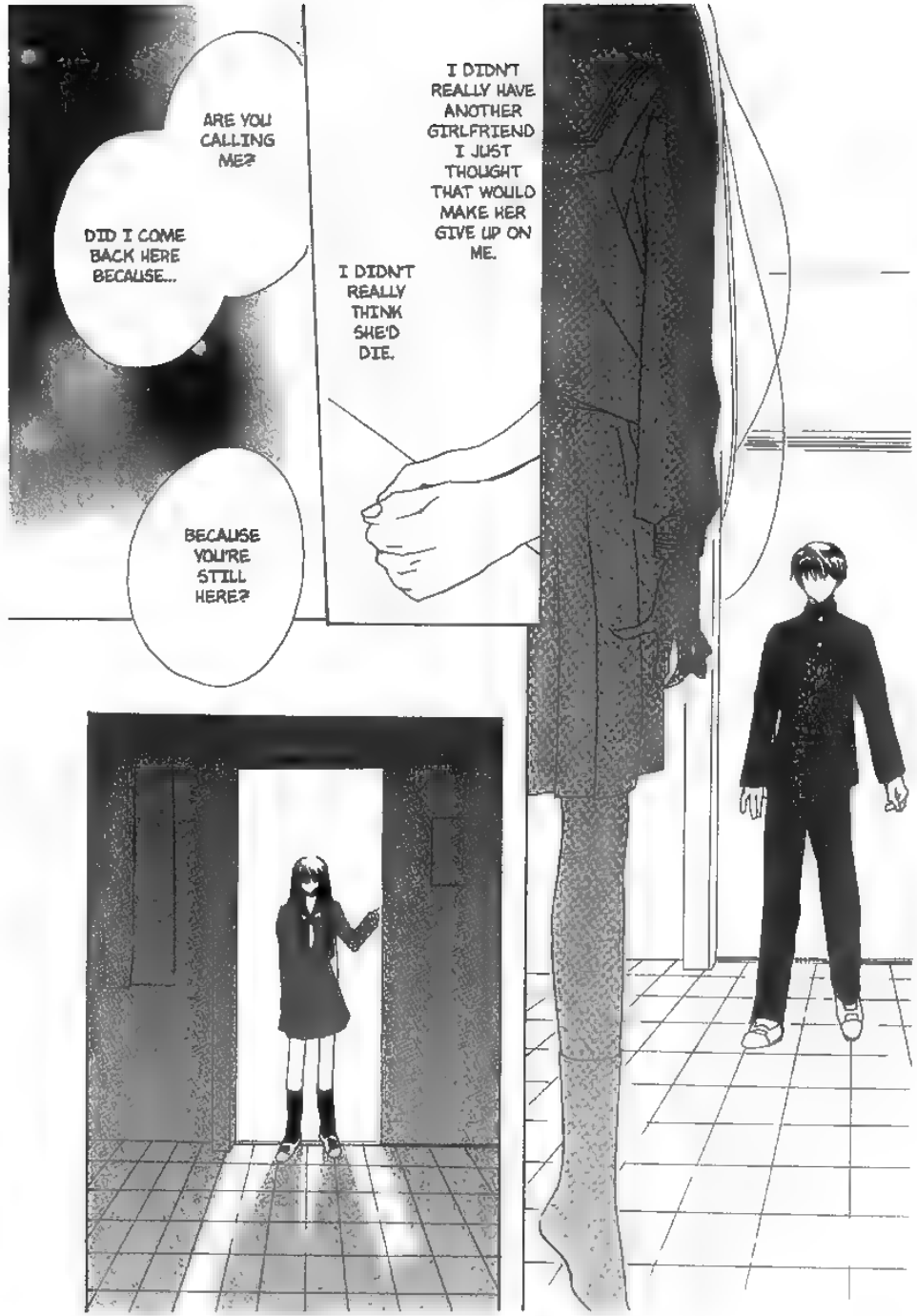
YOU'RE SURPRISINGLY USEFUL,
YOU KNOW.
I SMELL A FREAK.
HER NAME IS MINA MANAKA.
SHE WAS FOURTEEN YEARS OLD AT THAT TIME.
I FOUND IT IN A DIRECTORY FROM TWELVE YEARS AGO.
SHE FITS THE DESCRIPTION OF "KIRIKO."
SHE COMMITTED SUICIDE AT THIS SCHOOL.
OUR HOMEROOM TEACHER...
LOOKED A BIT PALE EARLIER, DIDN'T HE?
HEH HEH
I'VE GOT ANOTHER INTERESTING TIDBIT FOR YA.

WHAT DID YOU FIND OUT?
IT'S UNDERSTANDABLE THOUGH.
MR. HIROSE SURE LOOKED PALE.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO PUT IT LIKE THAT.
I JUST BORROWED IT.
YOU STOLE THAT?
I GOT A PICTURE.
HOLD YOUR HORSES.


YOU'RE SO ANNOYING. ALWAYS CLINGING TO MY SIDE LIKE YOU'RE MY GIRL-FRIEND...
LEAVE ME ALONE.
WHAT ARE YOU ANYWAY, NANAMI?
I'M JUST AN ECCENTRIC, CUTE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL GIRL.
...
DID SHE REALLY JUST SAY THAT?
WELL, SHE IS A CUTE GIRL...
JEEZ. I DON'T GET HER.
I'VE TOLD YOU I'M SICK OF YOU. I'VE GOT ANOTHER GIRLFRIEND/
UH
HEY, WAIT
LET'S GO.
SHE'LL BE THERE.
WHY DON'T YOU JUST DIE? I DON'T NEED YOU/

WHAT?
I ASKED AROUND, AND APPARENTLY HIROSE STARTED TEACHING HERE IN APRIL.
MR. KOICHI HIROSE.
WAS MINA MANAKA'S CLASSMATE.
THE KIRIKO TROUBLE ALSO STARTED IN APRIL.
IT SEEMS THAT..
YOU MIGHT BE EVEN BETTER THAN ME AT GATHERING INFO.
WE COULD USE TALENT LIKE YOURS.
?
HUH?
YOU KNOW EXACTLY WHERE SHE COMMITTED SUICIDE?
SEE?
ISN'T THAT A BIT SUSPICIOUS?

SHHH.
LOOK.
IT'S THAT HALLWAY WHERE THEY SAY SHE APPEARS.
SO THAT'S WHY.
HUH?


ARE YOU CALLING ME?
DID I COME BACK HERE BECAUSE...
BECAUSE YOU'RE STILL HERE?
I DIDN'T REALLY THINK SHE'D DIE.
I DIDN'T REALLY HAVE ANOTHER GIRLFRIEND I JUST THOUGHT THAT WOULD MAKE HER GIVE UP ON ME.

WHY DON'T YOU JUST DIE!
EEEEE!
GET BACK!
THERE'LL BE TROUBLE IF I ALLOW A HUMAN TO GET HURT.

HMM.
SO,
WHAT IS IT THAT YOU CAN'T FORGIVE, MISS?
I WON'T FORGIVE YOU.
I WON'T...
WE'RE SEEING IT FROM WITHIN.
THIS IS HER IMAGINATION.
I'M NOT GONNA FORGIVE YOU!

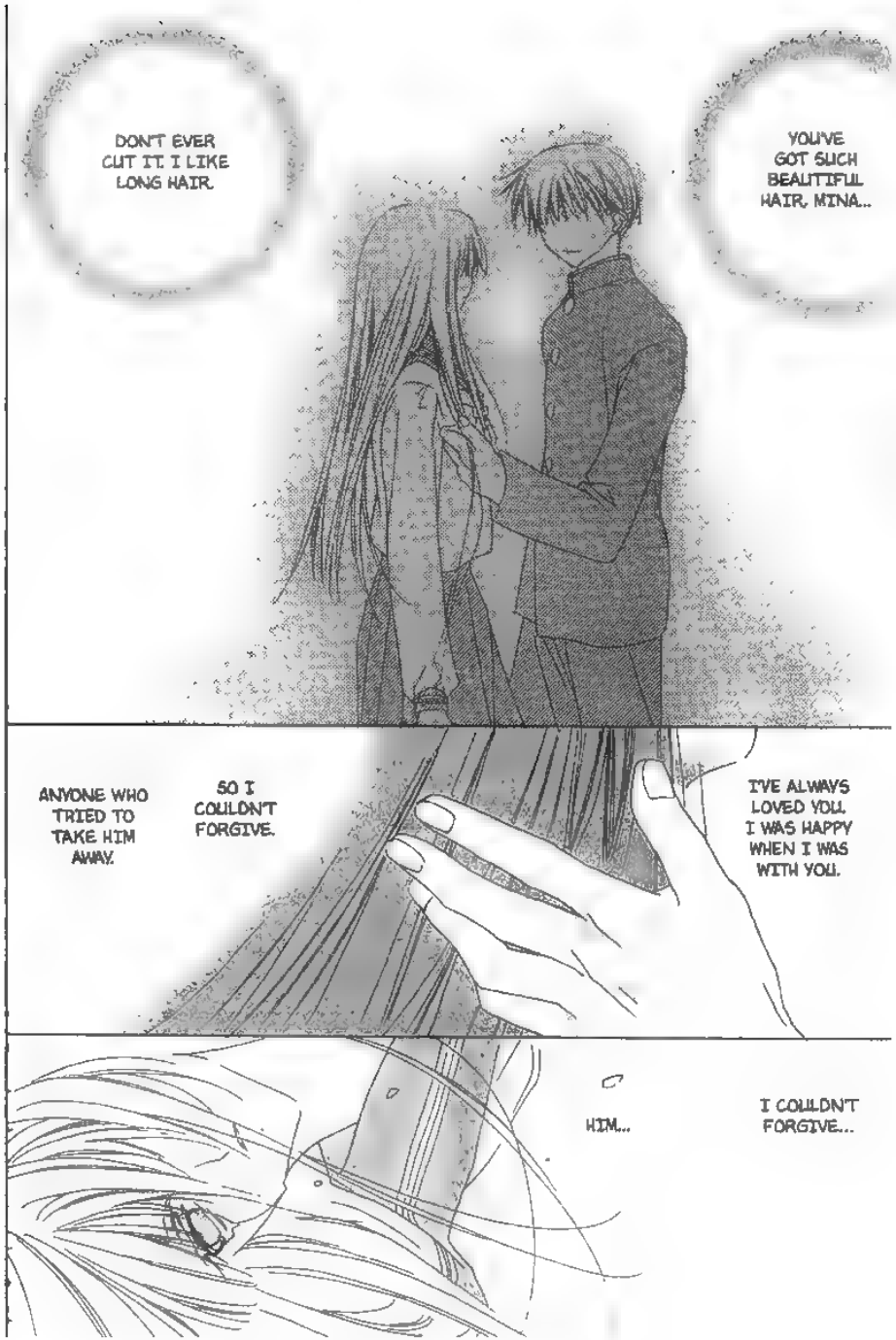
I WON'T LET ANYONE HAVE HIM!
HE IS MINE!
HEH HEH..
HEH HEH HEH
NA...
NANAMI?
I SEE.
I UNDER-STAND. NOW
I'LL EASE YOUR SUFFERING NOW...
!

UGG
SPLASH
GRAB
A WI...
A WIG!?
!
AHA-HAHA
DROWN!
NANAMI!
NANAMI!!
DROWN, NEVER TO RESURFACE!!

SLASH
KOICHI
...

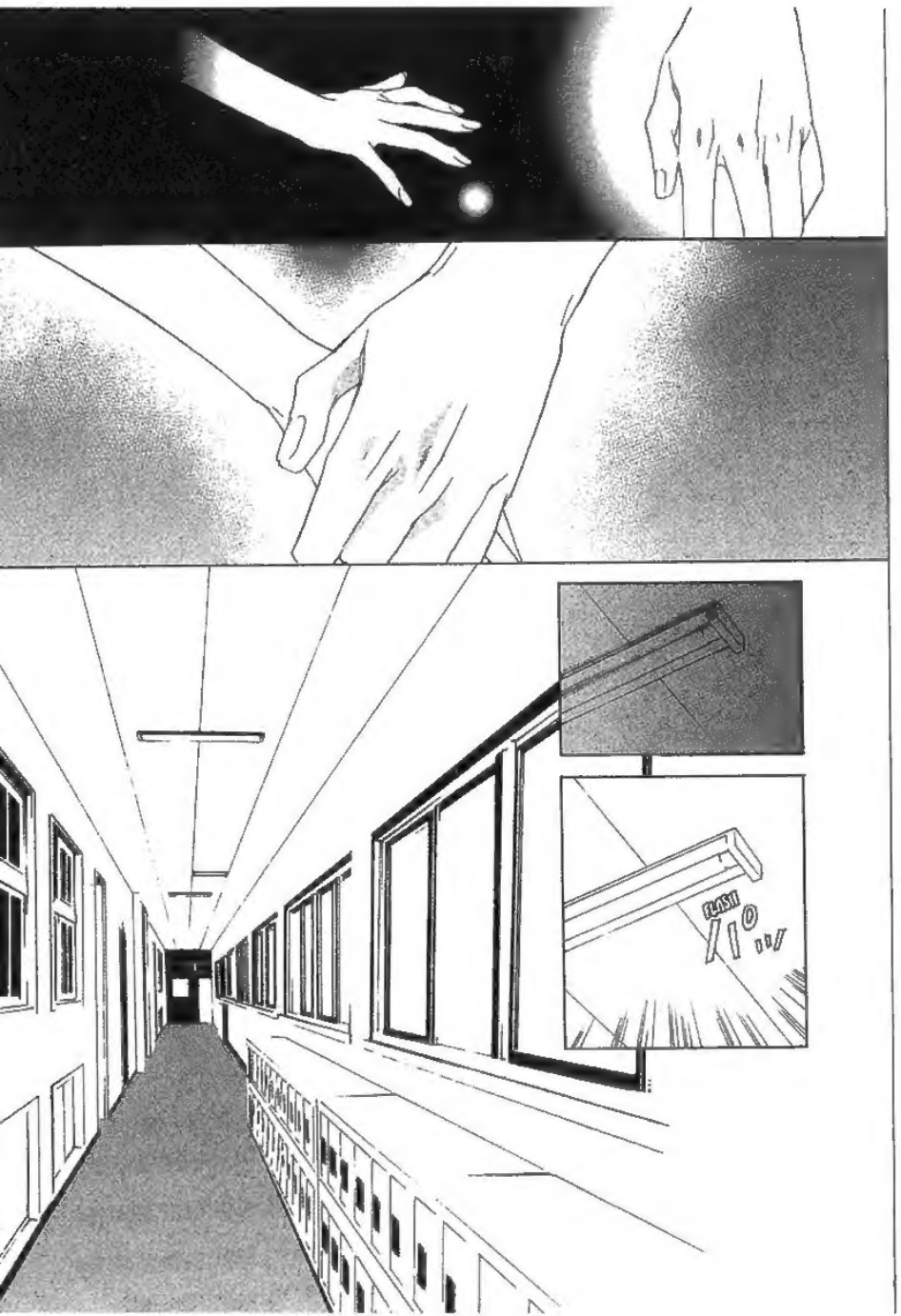
IZUMI
GO!
AS YOU WISH
...

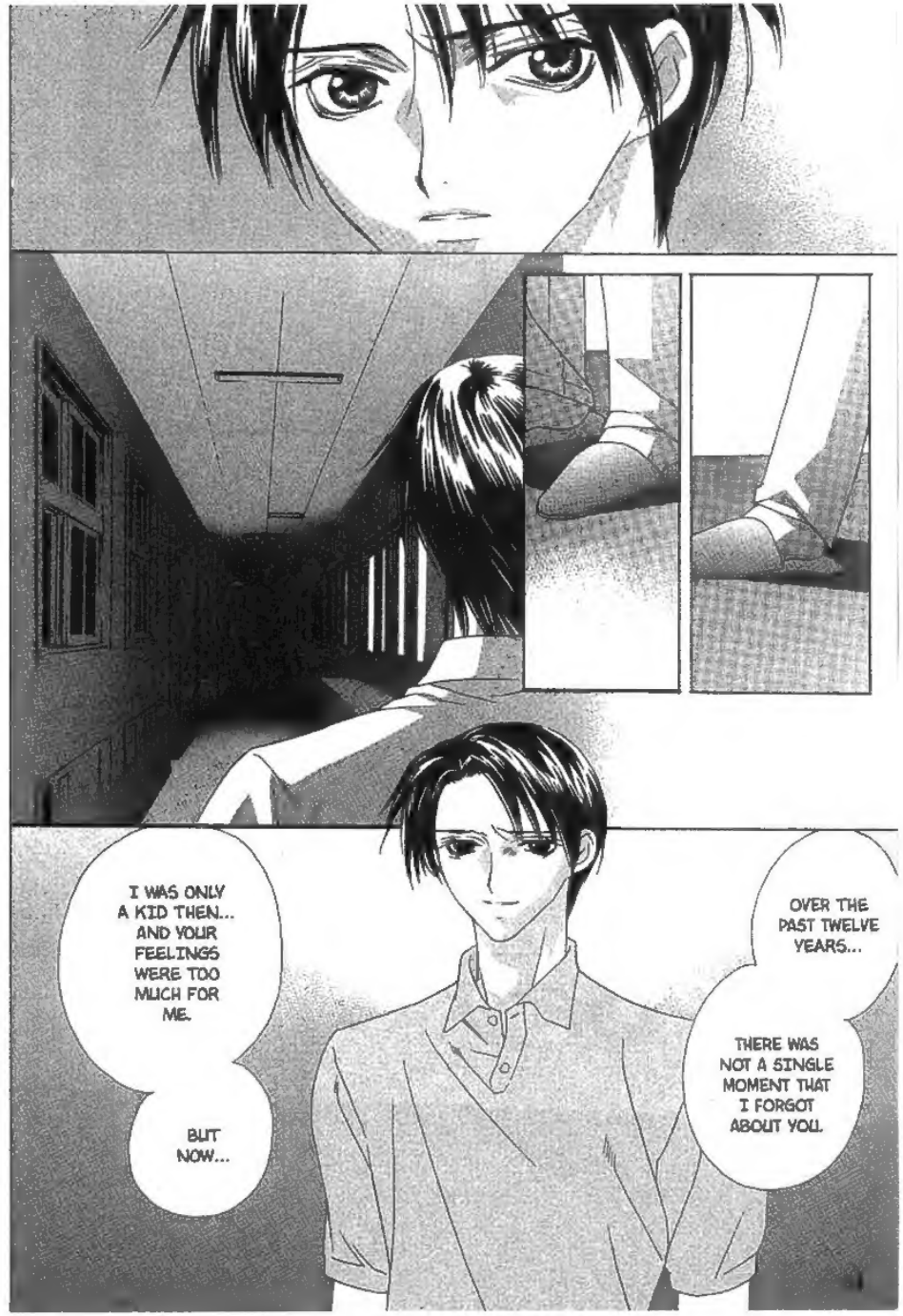
WHAT WAS THAT?
WHAT ARE YOU..
I WAS SUMMONED BY THE SCHOOL THROUGH AN AGENCY. I AM A STAND, THE ENEMY OF THE FREAKS/
CATEGORY FREAKS.
CREATURES ROAMING IN THE DARKNESS...


DON'T EVER CUT IT. I LIKE LONG HAIR.
YOU'VE GOT SUCH BEAUTIFUL HAIR, MINA...
ANYONE WHO TRIED TO TAKE HIM AWAY.
SO I COULDN'T FORGIVE.
I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU. I WAS HAPPY WHEN I WAS WITH YOU.
HIM...
I COULDN'T FORGIVE...

SHE HAD A MESSAGE FOR YOU...
SHE'LL BE IN THAT CLASSROOM.
WAITING FOR YOU ALWAYS.

THE PERSON WHO DREW THE LINE BETWEEN HUMANS AND NON-HUMANS NAMED US THAT.
"STAND" IS JUST A CONVENIENT TITLE FOR US.
"STAND"?
"FREAKS"?
A GUY?!
ARE YOU...
ANY OTHER QUESTIONS?
I NEVER SAID I WAS A GIRL, DID I?
YOU!
YOU BAS-TARD!!
GIVE ME BACK MY INNOCENCE!
WELL...
I STILL NEED TO DO SOMETHING TO FINISH MY JOB.
HEY, STOP IGNORING ME!


FLASH!


I WAS ONLY A KID THEN... AND YOUR FEELINGS WERE TOO MUCH FOR ME.
BUT NOW...
OVER THE PAST TWELVE YEARS...
THERE WAS NOT A SINGLE MOMENT THAT I FORGOT ABOUT YOU.

Afterword
HE'S GOT TENTACLES
MY BODY IS AWESOME TOO, YOU KNOW.
YOU CALLED ?
HAS A LOT OF NUDITY.
YOU KNOW, THIS MANGA
AS I LOOK AT IT AS A WHOLE
SAKURA
TRYING TO
SEE YOU!
PLEASE, PLEASE SPARE ME.
YOU WANNA SEE?
I'VE EXPERIENCED SO MANY BLOOD-CHILLING THINGS WITH YOU MANY NET
SHIVER
To be continued,see you next case.

SCARY STUFF.
THAT'S WHAT YOU GET FOR LIKING GIRLS.
AWW MAN.
I DON'T MIND IF YOU LIKE ME.
LIKING A GUY WOULD BE WORSE//
奇~カテゴリ:フリークス~
Bizarre ~Category: Freaks~ THE END

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